

# Ghiras

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QATAR CHARITY  
qcharity.org

Periodic Magazine by Qatar Charity, Issue No. 22 - Ramadan 1441 AH / May 2020

## COVID-19: One of History's Deadliest Pandemics

**Dr. Ali bin Smaikh  
Al Marri:**

Qatari humanitarian  
organizations  
enjoy the trust of  
the international  
community

**Youssef bin Ahmed  
Al-Kuwari:**  
The 2020-2024  
strategy to enhance  
the global presence  
of Qatar Charity



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# Ghiras

Periodic Magazine  
by Qatar Charity

Issue No. 22

Ramadan 1441 AH - May 2020

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The readers of 'Ghiras' magazine will witness a remarkable development in the form and content of this issue of the magazine.

This is not the first change made to the magazine since its experimental issue was released years ago, and will not surely be the last one, Allah willing, as our ambitions have no boundaries.

In this issue of Ghiras, you will read articles penned by well-known writers and journalists, significant opinions expressed by prominent figures, and several reports written by the magazine's correspondents across the world, in addition to success stories. You will also see a change in the magazine design and layout.

We are not going to stop here. We promise you that we will bring further improvements and make other changes in the coming issues. We look forward to having your opinions on this issue, because you have been our comrades during the journey of the magazine since its inception, and our source of pride and inspirations.

The twenty-second issue of the 'Ghiras' magazine has come in the blessed month of Ramadan 1441 AH, and in a time when the whole world is facing the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, which was described by international organizations as the global human catastrophe.

However, on the advent of the holy month of Ramadan, we would like to congratulate Arab and Islamic nations, calling upon Allah Almighty that the blessed month of Ramadan would carry calmness, peace of mind, safety and wellness. May Allah Almighty, accept our acts of worship and good deeds.

We hope for seeing a better future, overcoming this virus, and the return of peacefulness and calmness, sooner rather than later.

While we are, at Qatar Charity, aware of the sensitivity of this stage, and we have taken the required preventive and precautionary measures regarding the implementation of Ramadan projects and ways to donate to these projects, we emphasize on continuing to carry out our relief tasks, humanitarian interventions and awareness and voluntary efforts, in cooperation with the concerned authorities worldwide.

We carry out these relief tasks in the event of natural disasters and at the time of crises to raise awareness, ease the suffering of people, and improve their standards of living, as this is our moral, brotherly, and human duty, as an international humanitarian organization based in Qatar.

May peace, health, calmness, and happiness be with everyone.

**Ghiras**

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# Coronavirus:



## One of History's



## Deadliest Pandemics →

# COVID- 19 is the fastest-spreading and fiercest pandemic

Currently, humankind is facing one of the most hazardous threat throughout the human history, which is coronavirus disease (COVID - 19 ), a novel (new) strain of coronavirus that was first identified in Wuhan, Hebei Province, China.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has formally declared the COVID - 19 outbreak a pandemic, which has spread rapidly across the globe, infecting millions of lives, and causing the death of thousands of people, making millions of persons jobless, pushing other millions of people across the globe into extreme poverty, as the world's economy is collapsing.

## No Vaccine for COVID - 19

With no vaccine available to cure the infected and kill the Covid - 19, the world is facing an unprecedented threat to human life on the face of the earth, forcing them to stay home and maintain social distancing, and leaving a psychological impact on humankind.

Besides, due to the COVID - 19, depression,

anxiety, insomnia, perception disorders, the loss of confidence and feeling bored and frustrated are prevailing across the globe.

Many thinkers and analysts predict, «Coronavirus will be a major event that will definitely change the world,» and «will force human societies to reconsider all the prevailing systems.»





## Overcrowded Refugee Camps

In light of the rapid outbreak of coronavirus, international organizations and humanitarian agencies have warned of that it would bring a human tragedy to countries going through crises such as Syria, Yemen and Iraq, where a large number

of people live in overcrowded refugee camps with no protective items like masks and sanitizers. They called for urgent international action to protect the vulnerable from COVID - 19.



# Qatar Charity's Efforts in the Fight against COVID - 19

Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID - 19), Qatar Charity has taken the initiative to contribute to the efforts made by the State of Qatar to limit the spread of coronavirus and reduce infections. It has launched awareness campaigns, and distributed protective items to the people in Qatar, especially workers, in addition to taking precautionary measures for its employees and beneficiaries within the State of Qatar and worldwide.

Qatar Charity, in cooperation with the Ministries of Administrative Development, Labor, Social Affairs and Health, distributed health and awareness bags, food baskets and ready-to-eat meals to workers and volunteers.

This assistance (provided by Qatar Charity until

April 2020 ,10) included 43,000 food baskets, 94,000 ready-to-eat meals, 41,000 personal hygiene bags, 90,000 awareness leaflets in 9 languages, 28 awareness videos in 4 languages, cooperation with 20 embassies to provide assistance, and automatic renewal of the monthly aid disbursement to all of its registered beneficiaries for the next three months.

## Philanthropic Kitchens

Qatar Charity, as part of its 'Philanthropic Kitchens' initiative, distributes more than 6,000 ready-to-eat meals to workers, in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and with the participation of many popular kitchens, institutions, and volunteers.







## Aid Provided by Qatar Charity (until May 3, 2020) to Fight COVID-19



**30** Awareness Videos  
in **4** Languages



**53,000** Food Baskets



**90,000** Awareness  
Leaflets in **9** Languages



**338,000** Ready-to-Eat Meals  
(**6,000** Meals Daily for Workers)



Cooperation with  
**20** Embassies



**59,000** Personal Hygiene Kits



Automatic Renewal of Monthly  
Aid for Families for **3** Months



Number of Beneficiaries of Meals and  
Food Baskets: **392,641** Persons



Number of Volunteers: **8,000** Volunteers  
from nine Different Nationalities



Total Beneficiaries of All Aid:  
**458,100** Persons

### Health Bags

The health bags distributed to workers, included soap, shampoo, sanitizers, and masks, in addition to multilingual leaflets.

### Volunteers

Qatar Charity also benefited from the efforts of

many volunteers belonging to different nationalities, to support the civil society, respond quickly to any emergency at any time, and benefit from volunteers' capabilities for community service. The fieldwork team supervising the implementation of the campaign includes 100 qualified and trained cadres who have diverse experiences.



### Further Precautionary Measures

Qatar Charity has educated employees and workers on practicing personal hygiene and following instructions issued by the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), and facilitated online donation by credit and debit cards through the website and app ([www.qch.qa/app](http://www.qch.qa/app)).

Taking further precautionary measures, Qatar Charity has suspended the receiving of in-kind donations such as clothes, toys, and furniture for its Tayf project, and has cancelled all activities and events held by the various Qatar Charity Centers for Community Development.



### Contingency Plan

With regard to its field offices around the world, Qatar Charity has developed a contingency plan in support of the local and global health efforts to curb the spread of Coronavirus (COVID - 19). It is working

to support 30 countries by launching awareness campaigns and distributing medical equipment and hygiene kits.



# Qatar Charity applauded for its awareness and preventive efforts in the fight against COVID-19

Qatar Charity has made an effective and distinctive contribution, as a civil society organization, to the efforts aimed at fighting coronavirus, receiving praise from many officials of the concerned authorities within the State of Qatar.

HE the Spokesperson of the Supreme Committee for Crisis Management,

**Ms. Lolwah bint Rashid bin Mohamed Al Khater**

Qatar Charity and Qatar Red Crescent Society have proven that they are responsible and can do a tremendous job in such problematic circumstances.



His Excellency **Mr. Mohamed Hassan Al-Obaidli**,

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labor and Social Affairs

We value the role that civil society organizations play during this crisis, and we commend their partnership with the concerned institutions of the country. The Ministry, in partnership with Qatar Charity, launched awareness campaigns for workers by distributing leaflets in various languages in addition to personal hygiene kits.



## Qatar Charity supports global efforts



Qatar Charity (QC) has endeavored to support efforts aimed at curbing the spread of coronavirus (COVID19-) through its field offices around the world.

This attempt falls within its humanitarian efforts to help the underprivileged, oppressed, and the needy across the globe, and stand in solidarity with the communities going through disasters.

In this regard, Qatar Charity has coordinated its efforts with the concerned authorities in many countries to provide medical and protective devices and equipment, foodstuffs and the necessary support in Yemen, Lebanon, Tunisia and Palestine,

Besides, Qatar Charity has allocated more than QR15 million to contribute to efforts aimed at curbing the spread of the coronavirus (COVID19-) in Syria and Turkey. The amount will be utilized to help

Syrian refugees, the people of the host country, and the displaced within Syria by providing them with protective equipment, masks, and food.

### Turkey

Qatar Charity has made an effective contribution to support the Turkish government's efforts to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The assistance includes 75,000 protective medical masks, 200 thermometers, and 500 liters of sanitizers, in addition to providing basic food assistance to the elderly over 65 years.

Qatar Charity is also working, in coordination with the municipalities in Gaziantep, Kilis and Urfa to identify and select those most in need from the Syrian refugees and the host community, prioritizing the female-headed households, the families of orphans and people with special needs, and they will be provided with food baskets and bread.



# to fight coronavirus



## Syria

Qatar Charity was one of the first organizations that were invited by the World Health Organization (WHO) to be an active member of the working group in the fight against coronavirus within Syria. It has begun to train hundreds of health workers in northwestern Syria on how to protect themselves from coronavirus disease (COVID-19-), provide services for the infected and cover the deficit in the health sector in northern Syria.

Qatar Charity's teams have started the implementation of three projects, the first of which is the urgent response to the outbreak of coronavirus in northern Syria with a value of QR 200,000, and the urgent response to the virus outbreak and the provision of masks in Idlib with a value of QR 200,000 , in addition to providing personal protective equipment (PPE) at a cost of QR 200,000.

This coincided with providing the necessary materials for health facilities and the teams working at these facilities in Jarablus, Al-Bab, Azaz, Marea, Al-Rae, and Afrin.

## Yemen

In Yemen, Qatar Charity supported the efforts of the Ministry of Health to combat coronavirus by providing medical devices and equipment, sanitizers, disinfection and cleaning materials,

preventive materials, masks, oxygen cylinders, medical ventilators, autoclaves, microscopes, and sterilization sprinklers.

The project was implemented in Sanaa, and it is expected that three devices for blood transfusion and research will be delivered in the governorates of Hajjah, Ibb, and Sana'a, with a value of 80,000\$, in addition to 500 kits to test coronavirus, with a value of 2,000\$.

The number of beneficiaries is expected to reach 150,000 people, at a total cost of QR 474,300.

## Lebanon

In Lebanon, Qatar Charity worked at securing food aid and cleaning and sterilization materials for needy Lebanese, Syrians, and Palestinian families in Bekaa, Aarsal and El-Kharroub, to alleviate the suffering of the vulnerable. The project valued at QR 350,000 is expected to benefit 1,696 families directly, and 8,480 beneficiaries indirectly.

## Tunisia

In support of Tunisia's efforts to combat the coronavirus pandemic, Qatar Charity has coordinated with local authorities to provide urgent medical equipment such as masks, medical gloves, sterilizing fluids, protective suits and some foodstuffs. The project was implemented in complete coordination with state institutions at an amount of QR 380,000, while the project being implemented is estimated at more than 200,000\$. Qatar Charity is currently working in coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs in Tunisia to provide food aid as well.

## Palestine

Qatar Charity's office in the Gaza Strip, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, implemented a project to provide necessary medicines and protective supplies for quarantine centers and hospitals to combat coronavirus.

# Expatriate volunteers: Raising awareness contributes to defeating COVID-19

The whole world, including Qatar, is facing COVID - 19, which is a serious threat to humankind on the face of the earth. To defeat the threat by contributing to the efforts made by the State of Qatar to curb the spread of the Coronavirus disease (COVID - 19), Qatar Charity launched a volunteering initiative, which received an overwhelming response from the people in Qatar, both citizens and residents, especially from Asian expatriate communities in Qatar.

The Asian expatriate volunteers creating awareness among people on how to stay safe from the infection and rumormongering, emphasizing that raising awareness is a key that contributes significantly to defeating COVID - 19.

On this occasion, the "Ghiras" magazine of Qatar Charity has talked to some of the Asian expatriates contributing to the volunteering initiative to know the efforts they are making in the fight against COVID - 19, in addition to their reasons to take part in the initiative.



## **Ahmad Azim Khan, Indian National from Urdu-Speaking Community**

As volunteering gives me self-satisfaction, I take part in the volunteering initiative to raise awareness among various expatriates, particularly workers, about COVID - 19. I also participate in distributing awareness leaflets and other items to workers to let them know about the personal hygiene and social distancing measures implemented by the Government of Qatar. During the implementation of the volunteering initiative, our visits are well planned and organized by Qatar Charity, posing no major challenges to us to carry out our humanitarian duties.



## **Abdul Jawad Mohammed Kamil from Sri Lankan Community**

It is our responsibility to participating in the community services and since coronavirus (COVID - 19) spreading across the globe, we have a bigger responsibility to support all efforts aimed at curbing the spread of COVID - 19 and reduce infections. This is why I am taking part in the fight against COVID - 19 by joining Qatar Charity's awareness campaign and volunteering initiative to educate our community on COVID - 19 and how to protect themselves and others from it.



## **Abdul Jabbar, Indian National, from Malayalam Speaking Community**

As COVID - 19 infection is spreading fast around the world, causing the loss of life and interrupting the day-to-day life of humankind, everybody should do their part to fight it in whatever way they could.

While offering volunteer services, we take protective measures against the new coronavirus by wearing masks, hand gloves, and personal protective equipment (PPE), and keeping a distance between ourselves, aiming at protecting our fellow volunteers

and ourselves. Currently, we are involved in distributing awareness leaflets and hygiene kits to people across the country.

We, as the dedicated volunteers of Qatar Charity, are spreading awareness among all the communities especially the Asian communities. We are proud that we have overwhelmingly active participation of volunteers from different Asian communities along with Qatari social workers.





**By: Anvar Hussain**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Malayalam Radio - Qatar**

The media is a potentially powerful medium through which voluntary organisations can promote their work and communicate their needs. As identified by Fenton et al, "the media provide vehicles for giving as well as sources of the images and ideas that abound concerning the voluntary sector". Where volunteer recruitment is concerned, television, radio and print media can give organisations and authorities an opportunity to widen and target required volunteers structured and organised.

The media can help to create a positive volunteering environment by raising awareness and promoting involvement in volunteering. While a newspaper article or radio advertisement might not be identified by someone as the reason why they volunteer, other mediums could play an important role in influencing the way people think about volunteering more generally and their propensity to get involved.

The media plays an influential role in encouraging people to volunteer. As it is obvious, media formulates the mindset and agenda of contemporary masses knowingly or unknowingly. This is relevant in the cases of all preferential media of the time - television, radio and printed materials including magazines and newspapers, and other mediums including, for example, billboard advertising. For years, volunteering organisations and NGOs worldwide use the media of their times and geographies to create public and common consciousness towards voluntary humanitarian works.

### Unique Features

There are some unique features associated to the humanitarian activities instigated by the media, mostly unintentionally. They are: 1) Volunteers motivated by daily news and updates are unorganised. Such groups need to be guided appropriately and structurally deployed; 2) most of such volunteers are unskilled and

# The influence of the media and volunteering

non-professional, to be engaged in basic activities, say physical support at the face of calamities; 3) majority of such masses seems to be in need of basic training to be a part of the volunteering team, which will include primary medical training, awareness about self-protection measures etc. These are important to ensure the safety and security of the volunteers. However, these features vary as per the nature of the calamity and the scenario, across the times and geographies.

Organisations use the media largely to recruit volunteers. This becomes rather easy because of the public must already be aware of the necessity of volunteering in a particular crisis, through the same media. Studies on recent incidents worldwide underline that, after the first week of the mishap or calamity, people start approaching mainstream media houses in the locality to intimate the willingness to volunteer and be a part of the field team. This further helps the organisations and government arms to get registrations and organise the support work systematically.

### Media's Role in Volunteering in Fight against COVID - 19

Qatar has seen the influence of local media in preparing the residents and citizens to perform voluntary support activities across the country all over the year. Currently, the Qatar government authorities, in cooperation with Qatar Charity and other concerned bodies, are performing charity and volunteering activities systematically and well-organised to limit the spread of (COVID - 19), reduce infections, and educate people in the country on taking precautionary measures.

Qatari charitable organizations, including Qatar Charity, have a clear vision and very effective track record in exemplary charity and volunteering activities, not only within the country but across the world, where both the citizens and residents take part in supporting activities led by Qatar Charity and other humanitarian organization.

Currently, all the media actively engage with government initiatives of social welfare as well as crisis management. This has been reinstated with the media-behaviour during COVID - 19 crisis, in which all the media lined up to create awareness among almost all the communities in the country, carrying the messages about COVID - 19 awareness, from time to time, to the entire population in Qatar. Comparing television channels and print media, radio broadcasting as well as social media reach the remote residential areas of the country round the clock.

# This is how Qatar Charity brought hope to farmers of Gaza

Fadi Al Hasani - Gaza

The farmer, Muhammad Abu Halima, from Beit Lahia, in the northern Gaza Strip, intended until recently to leave work in the agricultural sector, and search for another source of income, after he has exhausted all his options to reclaim his land deprived of power supply to agricultural wells.

Abu Halima intended to buy fuel for the generator in the absence of electricity supply lines to his remote area, which is bordered by Israel to the north, and by the sea to the west. However, due to the deteriorating economic conditions, he was unable to pay for the fuel, and thus drought began to affect his land. Then, he seriously considered leaving this occupation and searching for another work.

However, the solar-powered well project implemented by Qatar Charity, within the framework of the 7,750 Dunums of Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Project, brought joy and delight to Abu Halima.

The farmer Abu Halima notes that the project restored hope to farmers, by making their land suitable for cultivation.

In another story, the farmer Mohammed Al Masdar could not control himself, when he found that his farmland and dozens of other lands get water

supplies from the solar-powered well, without the need for electricity and fuel.

“All praise is due to Allah, we no longer need anything to revive and cultivate this land”, said Mohammad Al Masdar.

The farmer Al Masdar says he has been suffering for more than a decade because of the regular power outage, which prevented the operation of the pumps for irrigation. When Qatar Charity provided solar power for wells, farmers no longer have to exert more effort for irrigation.

Farmers in these areas were dependent on electric generators to operate the pumps. Despite poverty and destitution, they, therefore, had to purchase fuel for the generators. When they became unable to purchase fuel owing to difficult economic conditions, the lands have become vulnerable to drought.

This project supports Palestinian farmers living in the affected areas of the Gaza Strip by rehabilitating 7,750 dunums of land allocated for agriculture.









# The Practical Guide to Humanitarian Law 2019

Author: Dr. rançoise Bouchet-Saulnier

Translated into Arabic by:

Mohammad Massoud

Publisher: Dar Al-Alam Lil Malayin- Lebanon

Second Edition: 2019

International humanitarian law is a set of rules, which seek to limit the effects of armed conflict. It protects persons who are not or are no longer participating in the hostilities.

This law is based on treaties and protocols, especially the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocols, as well as a wide range of customary rules binding on all states and parties involved in conflicts.

## 300 terms

The book defines articles of law that prioritize societies during crises, and includes more than 300 terms and their analysis, based on alphabetical order (from A to Z) such as civilians, relief, blockade, children, refugees, the United Nations, population displacement, peacekeeping, medical duties and others.

With each term, the related rights, the concrete problems that arise in different situations, the most frequent violations, and practical advice are mentioned to ensure respect for the law.

All this is complemented by a system of referral from one term to another, as well as a complete list of references and addresses that include the phone numbers and websites of the various organizations mentioned in the dictionary, which makes it an indispensable tool for all those linked to humanitarian law such as those concerned with international relations, and humanitarian action (NGOs, international organizations, etc.), students, experts in law, and the public in general.

The guide presents the important role played by relief organizations and voluntary work on the ground, and the risks and harassment they are



exposed to, and the rights guaranteed to them in order to make them able to perform their duties to the fullest, and deliver assistance to victims.

## Dictionary Translations

The dictionary represents a credible reference, and charts the clear way of working in wars and crises. It is authored by Dr. rançoise Bouchet-Saulnier, who holds a doctorate in law, is a Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) legal officer, and a director of research at the same organization.

With the publication of this Arabic edition, the dictionary is now in circulation in five languages: French, English, Spanish, Russian and Arabic. The Arabic version of its second edition has 1,215 pages.

The French newspaper Le Monde notes the importance of the dictionary, saying, «A work that brings together scattered legislation in a simple and clear style.»

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# Khubaib Bin Adi (R) Orphanage in Bangladesh



The Khubaib Bin Adi (R) Orphanage, which was established by Qatar Charity in 2004 on 5 acres of land, is one of the significant orphanages run by Qatar Charity in Bangladesh. It provides academic, educational, social, health services, and vocational training to orphans and students belonging to several districts of the country.

Located in a village named «Madhaa Kachua Sardar Para» of the Rangpur District, a major city in Bangladesh, where scarcity and poverty are their constant cohorts, the Khubaib Bin Adi (R) Orphanage is a life-giving institution for hundreds of orphans and their families, in addition to other students and beneficiaries.

## Services & Facilities

The orphanage has currently 423 students from grade 1 to grade 10, who receive food, clothing, housing, and medical services in addition to childhood care.

The orphanage has four buildings, including an

academic four-storey building with 12 modern classrooms on each floor. These buildings are used separately for classrooms, housing, medical service and dining. Besides, it has a technical education system for orphans, and provides computer and sewing training to students.

There are also, a playground, open spaces, fruit gardens and two big-size ponds, where orphaned students go fishing.

A big and well-designed mosque has recently been built inside the Khubaib Bin Adi (R) Orphanage where a large number of people can offer prayer.

## Beneficiaries

Not only the orphans are beneficiaries of the orphanage, but also their families benefit from it. Nearly 2,500 persons belonging to the families of orphans benefit annually from the various projects such as Eid clothing, Udhya projects, and other activities and programs implemented by Qatar Charity through the Khubaib Bin Adi (R) Orphanage.



**Aid the needy...**  
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# Rofaqa:

## The World's largest Family for Orphans

By **Ali Abualnassr AlRachied - Abdullah AlAshwal**

Number of pages: 192 pages

Publisher: Qatar Charity in 2020

Nearly 10,000 children become orphans every day in the world, due to wars, conflicts, droughts, epidemics, famines, etc. The latest figures released by the United Nations organizations indicate that there are approximately 140 million orphans worldwide, while other estimates raise the number to 165 million.

The orphans in many Arab and Islamic countries represent a significant percentage of this figure, due to the crises that happened or are happening in countries like Iraq and Syria.

### Reasons for Authorship

Perhaps this calls for a greater focus on carrying out the human duty towards this vulnerable section of society that needs protection and social care, so that its members do not fall prey to negligence or loss. This also calls for documenting the experiences of charities in this field, which represents an important volume of their activities, and for researching the prevailing models of sponsorship and care to develop them and reach a better model.

### Two Main Parts

The book entitled "The World's largest Family for Orphans" is divided into two main parts. The first section, which is theoretical, is about orphans in general (concepts of human visions), and includes main headlines, such as definitions of an orphan, the size of the phenomenon, the reasons, the need of orphans for social care and psychological support, the patterns of orphans' sponsorship and care nowadays.

The first part also includes an invitation to develop an orphan sponsorship model for charitable organizations, orphans in Islam (the period of sponsorship, the rights of an orphan, and the merit of sponsorship ...), some masterpieces of our civilization in taking care of orphans, orphans in Arabic literature, and great orphans throughout



history.

Another section covers the experience of Qatar Charity in the orphan sponsorship and care, and includes main headlines such as beginnings, turning points, major developments, monthly and periodic assistance, services activities, and qualitative projects.

The second section also includes the «Rofaqa» initiative, the reasons for its launch, its most important achievements, easy steps, quick sponsorship services through modern technologies, the experience of realizing orphans' wishes, and success stories.

The book concluded with a reference to the compassionate human gesture from His Highness the Emir of the State of Qatar, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, for the orphans sponsored by Qatar Charity.

### Additions

What distinguishes the book is that it covers orphan-related topics from various angles, giving useful information, important statistics, models, and examples. It also documented the experience of Qatar Charity, one of the largest sponsors of orphans in the region, and the story of the "Rofaqa" initiative, and more importantly, it sparked a discussion on the development of the orphan sponsorship model for charitable organizations, after it gave remarks on the currently prevailing sponsorship models.

We hope that the book will be an addition for all those who are concerned with this phenomenon, including the sponsored, sponsors, philanthropists, decision-makers at charitable organizations, researchers and those interested in this regard.



# Clean technology & renewable energy to address major power outages in Gaza

Technology contributes greatly to fighting poverty, improving the standards of living of the poor, and meeting their daily life needs.

Given the problems of frequent power outages in the Gaza Strip, Qatar Charity has paid great attention to the use of sustainable, alternative and environmentally friendly technology such as solar energy or biogas technology, in order to offer appropriate solutions, provide the required energy to schools and hospitals and pump water to farms and others.

This attention comes to ease the suffering of the Gaza Strip, where nearly two million people live.







## Education Sector

In the education sector, which is one of the most important sectors, the continuous power outages lead to many problems, the result of which is poor outputs.

To reduce this problem and improve the environment of education, Qatar Charity has implemented projects, using sustainable and environmentally friendly electrical power generation systems like solar systems that convert solar radiation energy into electrical energy, and can provide schools with the required energy permanently, independently, and with high efficiency. The Gaza Strip is located on a solar belt with high average radiation.

The project contributed to providing continuous electrical energy to 14 schools in the northern Gaza Strip, Khan Yunis, Rafah, the central area, and Gaza City, in addition to four schools belonging to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

The Al-Shaimaa Secondary School for Girls in Beit Lahia was also provided with a solar energy system, benefiting 960 students, and currently, Al-Fahd Al-Sabah School is being provided with solar energy to benefit more than 240 female students, in addition to improving the infrastructure of education services provided to 15,000 male and female students.

## Health Sector

The health sector of Gaza is also suffering from a shortage of devices, equipment and medicines, and is witnessing a continuous power cut, with the inability of the Ministry of Health to purchase the fuel needed to operate the generators, which is a threat to the lives of patients. This also applies to hospitals, clinics and primary healthcare centers,

increasing the negative impact on the lives of the residents of the Gaza Strip.

To address this situation, Qatar Charity implemented a project at a cost of 420,000\$ to use solar systems to generate sustainable and environmentally friendly electrical energy to contribute to improving health services and protecting patients.

## Medical Waste

Qatar Charity contributed to completing a project of establishing and operating a medical waste management system in the Gaza Strip, in co-operation with international partners led by the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA), and local partners headed by the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry of Health and the Environment Authority in Palestine.

This came to improve public health, achieve development in rural areas of the Gaza Strip and provide energy continuously to the medical waste treatment plant in Khan Yunis by providing the plant with an electricity source and a solar energy system.

The project, which benefits 500,000 people at a cost of 200,000\$, contributes to protecting the local environment, and works at reducing the operating expenses bill for treatment. The solar energy needed to operate the sterilization equipment is provided, in addition to establishing the electricity grid and connecting the power line to the plant.

## Agriculture Sector

In the agricultural sector, two wells were operated by alternative energy at a cost of \$ 42,433, which helped pump water to irrigate more than 200 dunums, within the framework of the 7,750 Dunums of Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Project, to support farmers living in the affected areas of the Gaza Strip.

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 قطر الخيرية  
QATAR CHARITY









# **‘Sham Deserves’ for the relief of one million displaced**

**Qatar Charity (QC), in partnership with the Qatar Media Corporation (QMC), launched the ‘Sham Deserves’ campaign to deliver aid to Syrian displaced persons and refugees, aiming at easing their plight and meeting their urgent needs.**

**The campaign came within the framework of moral and humanitarian duty in solidarity with the Syrian displaced persons and refugees, living under the worsening humanitarian conditions due to the largest Syrian displacements during the months December–March 2020, forcing nearly one million people to flee home.**



### Solidarity with the Vulnerable

The 'Sham Deserves' campaign aims to provide aid to 250,000 Syrian refugees and displaced persons in the areas of shelter, food, water, sanitation, and health.

With the launch of the campaign, two delegations including officials of Qatar Charity along with many social activists, social media influencers, media figures, and female philanthropists, have directly distributed urgent aid to the displaced in their camps within Syria and to refugees in Turkey near the borders with Syria.

The campaign, through a live broadcast by QMC, managed to collect 149 million riyals (40.9\$ million) from individuals, families, companies and clubs, in addition to many in-kind donations to support the displaced Syrians in Idlib and the northern parts of Syria, who are going through a very tough humanitarian crisis.

Dozens of establishments, from both public and private sectors, including restaurants, cafes, companies, shops, banks, health centers, have shown their solidarity with the vulnerable Syrians by

donating some portions of their profits in support of the campaign.

### Accompanying Events

Qatar Charity has held many events within the framework of the 'Sham Deserves' campaign across the country, with the participation of a large number of children, parents, artists and poets to educate them on the plight of Syrian displaced persons and refugees, and raise funds to help them.

Besides, the charity market held by the Al Rayyan women's branch of the Qatar Charity Center for Community Development, with the participation of the Qatar Business Women Entrepreneurs «Raqq», witnessed a remarkable presence of women, in support of the «Sham Deserves» campaign.

### Endless Plight

The displaced and refugees are going through the endless plight, tragedies and pains, which were monitored by the delegation of Qatar Charity. The members of the delegation noticed that many families are severely affected due to the displacement and have to live under very challenging humanitarian conditions in random



camps established along the Syrian-Turkish borders. They also said that new displacements also happen, as groups of the displaced arrive in daily and have to stay in camps that lack the minimum essentials of life, adding that many of them had to sell all belongings to build a tent on a piece of land threatened by rain and flood.

“The conditions we saw in these camps are very problematic, and what we offer is very little compared to the magnitude of the suffering that we have seen. Therefore, we ask everyone, both citizens and residents, to join hands and donate to deliver aid to more than 900,000 people,” said Ayesh al-Qahtani, a preacher.

“What was provided to the displaced is not sufficient, and they are in dire need of more aid,” said the social activist, Mohamed Al-Kuwari, considering the delivery of aid to them as a duty, and emphasizing that what people see as little means a lot to the displaced Syrians.

### Relieving the Plight

The journalist Iman Al-Kaabi appealed to the people in Qatar to lend a hand to all those in need by contributing to the “Sham Deserves” campaign, as their plight is woeful and the continued displacement exacerbates the magnitude of the crisis, adding that the aid would contribute to alleviating their suffering. «I cannot imagine how these displaced families live in such places that lack the most basic amenities and safety,» she said.

It is worth mentioning that, according to United Nations, more than 900,000 people, %80 of them women and children, in addition to half a million children, who have also been displaced. Dozens of thousands along with their families are living in open places, struggling to survive.

## Aid Provided During January – March 2020



### Shelter & Non-Food Items:

25,000 Tents

25,000 Heating Materials and Shelters Supplies



### Food Security & Livelihoods:

150,000 Canned Meals for 3 months

150,000 Cooked Meals

450,000 Bundles of Bread, with 5,000 bundles daily, for three months.



### Health

Field Medical Teams (20 Teams with Drugs)

Medical Consumables and Ambulance Equipment



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

75,000 Hygiene Kits (25,000 Kits Monthly)

500 Toilet Units.

300,000 Liters of Diesel for Water Plants (100,000 Liters per Month)

50,000 Drinking Water Tankers

10,000 Water Tanks with a capacity of 1,000 liters





Dr. Ali bin Smaikh Al Marri, chairperson of NHRC:

We make great efforts  
to promote and protect  
human rights in Qatar  
at the educational and  
legislative levels

## Qatar Charity is one of the successful experiences in the field of humanitarian action, and enjoys the trust of the international community

Our efforts are integrated with charitable organizations to preserve human dignity, especially in light of crises

The efforts of human rights institutions are integrated with the efforts of humanitarian organizations, especially in light of the disasters and crises that are sweeping across the world at an increasing rate, because development issues are an integral part of human rights.

The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) in Qatar has assumed responsibility for protecting and safeguarding these rights and preventing their violation. It also worked on maintaining the reputation of Qatari charitable organizations, at the regional and international levels under the supervision of the Regulatory Authority for Charitable Activities (RACA). None of Qatari humanitarian organizations was put on the international terrorism list issued by the United Nations, but some of them have consultative status with the United Nations, for example, Qatar Charity.

The “Ghiras” magazine talked to Dr. Ali bin Smaikh Al Marri, chairperson of the NHRC on the role of the NHRC, the status of human rights at the international level, and the role of humanitarian institutions in preserving human dignity.

**What are the Efforts of the NHRC to promote and protect human rights at the level of the State of Qatar?**

Since its establishment in 2002, the NHRC has been

responsible for human rights issues and freedoms, as well as, ways to address, promote, protect them and prevent their violations. NHRC has made great efforts to promote and protect human rights at the educational and legislative levels.

At the educational level, the NHRC adopted training courses for state institutions to introduce the most important principles of human rights, as well as, media campaigns for various issues, including those related to the right to health and education, workers' rights, and the rights of persons with disabilities and others.

On the legislative side, the NHRC contributed to urging the state of Qatar to join several human rights covenants and conventions, in addition to contributing to enacting legislation related to human rights and fundamental freedoms, most notably the Human Trafficking Act, the Domestic Workers Law, the establishment of the Labor Dispute Resolution Committee, and Expatriates' Entry and Exit Law.

The NHRC also contributed to the amendments to the Human Resources Law, the Labor Law, the legislative development that took place in the law like abolishing the sponsorship system, the Wages Protection Act, announcing the specifications of decent housing for workers, and Permanent Residency Law and others.

**What are the most important features of the Qatari philosophy in dealings with the human rights issue, and how have you managed to turn that into a reality?**

The work of the NHRC stems from our customs, traditions and legacies that provided a fertile environment for transforming human rights principles into a reality reinforced by the belief of the leadership of the country in the importance





## Qatari humanitarian institutions enjoy high credibility, and none of them has been put on the UN terrorism list

of supporting these principles to achieve the mission of the NHRC for which it was founded and to transform its vision into behavior in the natural dealings of society in the State of Qatar.

Also, the religious reference and Islamic culture included these principles, which prompted the NHRC to organize an exhibition on the “Islamic Culture in Human Rights”. The exhibition included paintings of Quranic verses and hadiths in Arabic script, which are in conformity with the basic principles of international conventions on human rights. It aimed to acquaint different societies around the world with the respect that Islam gives to human rights.

### What are the efforts of the NHRC to maintain the reputation of humanitarian action in Qatar?

Qatari humanitarian organizations are components and most important institutions of civil society. They play a role in the promotion and protection of human rights to contribute to developing underprivileged communities and carrying out voluntary actions that constitute a direct contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights and economic and social rights, which includes a set of rights necessary to provide a dignified living as an essential human right.

Any accusations of Qatari humanitarian organizations are aimed at distorting the work of these organizations and targeting the humanitarian and development work carried out by these organizations. The NHRC considers this step a dangerous precedent that would hinder development work, depriving poor communities of the assistance provided by Qatari organizations. This dangerous precedent would also hinder efforts made to combat and eradicate poverty, and provide aid and relief to those in need, and this is flagrant violations of the right to comprehensive and

sustainable development.

In this regard, we met in 2018 with the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations for Humanitarian Affairs, and he was given a background on the movements of the NHRC, whether at the level of the United Nations agencies or at the level of the specialized international organizations.

In 2017, we also met with the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs with the Middle East and Central Asia. We discussed with him human rights challenges due to the blockade of the State of Qatar. We explained to him the repercussions of the blockade on humanitarian action.

We also affirmed the reputation and credibility of Qatari organizations at the regional and international levels, and the operational and financing partnerships that link Qatari charitable organizations to United Nations agencies, led by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

We also praised Qatar’s move to establish the RACA that oversees and controls charitable and humanitarian work in the country. The State of Qatar is the only country of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which has established such a body that is a regional model in the field of supervision and control.

Thanks to these efforts, None of Qatari humanitarian organization was put on the international terrorism list issued by the United Nations, but some of them have consultative status with the United Nations, for example, Qatar Charity.



### How do you see the experience of Qatari charitable organizations, including Qatar Charity in the field of humanitarian action?

The Qatari charitable organizations, in general, are among the most important donors and implementing organizations in the world, and enjoy international and regional credibility and respect for the assistance they provide to reduce the humanitarian tragedies resulting from disasters.

Qatar Charity is an institutional address bearing the values, principles, and cultural and civilizational heritage of the Qatari community to support charitable work and deal with the humanitarian and development challenges faced by the poor and the needy worldwide.

The work carried out by Qatar Charity is undeniable, especially in helping children and refugees who are

### Our era faces the most difficult tests for human rights at the international and regional levels

victims of humanitarian crises, disasters and wars particularly in our Arab region and Africa. Qatar Charity is also one of the successful experiences in the field of humanitarian action and a noble model for the Qatari community.

Qatar Charity enjoys the trust of the international community because of its credibility and impartiality in the field of humanitarian action, and this is indicated by the size of cooperation agreements and partnerships between Qatar Charity, UN agencies, humanitarian organizations, and international and regional donors.

Due to this trust, Qatar Charity is one of the organizations that enjoy consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

### How do you invest the efforts of Qatari charities in promoting human rights?

Human rights work is inseparable from charitable action, because both work for the dignity of humankind. All the accomplishments made by Qatar Charity across the globe brings the trust and respect to all institutions in the State of Qatar. The efforts of NHRC are complementary to the efforts of Qatar Charity for the sake of humanity.

The real investment by both sides is to demand justice for human dignity, because development issues are an integral part of human rights. The issue of combating poverty has become an international obligation, as stipulated by the Covenant on Economic, Political and Social Rights and the Additional Protocol, and Human Rights Day was celebrated once under the theme "Fighting Poverty: a matter of obligation not charity.

### Can you shed light on human rights in the light of the current international and regional scenario?

We are in an era, which is one of the most difficult tests for human rights at the international and regional levels, because there are many crises, especially in the Arab and Islamic regions. The biggest loser, in these crises, is human, because they left behind refugee camps crowded with children, women and the elderly, and led to an increase in illegal immigration, which resulted in drowning of people and humanitarian violations.

Unemployment, dropouts, the spread of epidemics, and the deterioration of health have also increased, which negatively affect the achievement of the sustainable development goals and pose a great challenge to national human rights institutions, international human rights organizations, civil society organizations, and humanitarian and charitable organizations.

We are facing an increasingly complex scene, day after day. I do not want to draw a black map of the world, but from the facts that we have, I can say, «We are in front of a blurry future for the human rights in the world.»



CEO of Qatar Charity reveals strategy for next five years in his interview with “Ghiras”

# The 2024-2020 strategy to enhance the global presence of Qatar Charity



Keeping pace with the new developments in the field of charitable work and in line with the accelerating steps of development, Qatar Charity (QC) has launched a strategy for the next five years (2024-2020) to meet its aspirations and draw its milestones during the next stage, which can be called the stage of challenge, capability development, and advancing towards internationality.

This will be based on improving and raising the efficiency of the performance of organizational units at Qatar Charity, and getting its employees involved in developing, raising efficiency, protecting assets, governance, internal control, risk management, fiscal control, continuous improvement, quality control, performance measurement and evaluation, and putting international professional standards into practice.

To shed more light on the goals and expected results of this strategy, the 'Ghiras' magazine talked to the CEO of Qatar Charity, Youssef bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari.

**What is the vision of Qatar Charity through its new strategy 2024-2020?**

The new vision of Qatar Charity looks forward to a world in which societies and peoples enjoy their full right to peace, development, and protection, as well as, assistance whenever they face exceptional circumstances during disasters and crises. Qatar Charity also holds a vision for a world in which all individuals, especially children, enjoy their basic rights, without any discrimination, and live in dignity in all situations.

This vision came about three years after the international community adopted the 2030 Agenda, which is expressed in a package of international initiatives such as the sustainable development goals, the world humanitarian summit outputs, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

We launch this strategy while we realize that the world needs redoubled efforts to deal with a set of development and humanitarian dilemmas that hinder development efforts in poor countries and reduce their resilience to disasters and crises, and may threaten their stability and security.

**According to this vision, what is the mission of Qatar Charity?**

Qatar Charity's mission is based on responsible and effective solidarity with the most vulnerable, based on the foundations and values of social justice and human dignity to enable those in need to enjoy their basic rights according to the norms of civilized nations and the covenants agreed upon by states.

**In the framework of this strategy, what are the most prominent issues that Qatar Charity will focus on?**

Qatar Charity is concerned with a set of strategic issues closely related to the fundamental rights of beneficiaries of its services. These issues that Qatar Charity will focus on in the next five years include, for example, education, food security in

**Al-Kuwari: Our humanitarian and charitable work reflects one of the bright faces of the State of Qatar and the values of its indigenous people in supporting the needy across the globe**

light of climate change and the spread of crises, social protection system sustainability, economic empowerment, livelihoods, human dignity, humanitarian response, communities' resilience to disasters and crises, appropriate technology and improving people's living conditions.

The strategy also focuses on enhancing the capabilities of Qatar Charity in dealing with various issues related to quality, transparency, accountability and compliance, as these issues are the most important priorities that concern





## Al-Kuwari: We are keen to cooperate with UN agencies, and fund humanitarian projects.

the civil society sector throughout the world. It has also given special attention to Qatar Charity's institutional capabilities and its future methods of work to achieve its vision efficiently and effectively.

**Does the strategy include a geographical expansion of Qatar Charity's work?**

Qatar Charity underscores the importance of geographical expansion as an extension of its previous strategic options. Its new 2024-2020 plan will focus on strengthening Qatar Charity's orientation towards opening more field offices, with nine new offices to be opened in Morocco, Malaysia, Tanzania, Gambia, Senegal, Nigeria, Mali, Togo and Ethiopia. Qatar Charity currently has 28 offices allowing it to quickly intervene at the time of emergencies, supervise, and follow up directly its development programs and projects.

**How do you evaluate Qatar Charity's partnership with UN agencies and international organizations?**

Qatar Charity is keen to cooperate with international organizations and work with them to finance many humanitarian projects in support of the vulnerable such as refugees, displaced persons and poverty-stricken communities. The expansion of these partnerships is a strategic goal and this is reflected in the increase in the number of agreements signed with the United Nations agencies, showing the volume of projects and programs funded and implemented by Qatar Charity around the world in cooperation with its partners.

The cooperation and partnership agreements signed during 2019 between Qatar Charity, international humanitarian organizations, and the United Nations agencies amounted to more than 60 million Qatari riyals. The projects funded by Qatar being were valued at 44,296,816 riyals, while the projects implemented by Qatar Charity, with the funding from international organizations were estimated at more than 16 million riyals.

Qatar Charity has signed 11 cooperation agreements with international organizations and United Nations

agencies to fund several international projects, including six cooperation agreements with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), two cooperation agreements with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), an agreement with the World Food Program (WFP), and two memorandums of understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

**Is there a plan and efforts by Qatar Charity to promote and increase these partnerships?**

Qatar Charity continues its efforts to increase cooperation and partnerships with UN agencies and international organizations to mobilize greater support for urgent humanitarian interventions, implement larger projects that contribute to achieving sustainable development goals, coordinate joint efforts in the areas of humanitarian interventions, and share experiences to maximize impact. The year 2020 is a time for continuing international partnerships of Qatar Charity.

The QC4HCR, a collaborative initiative, is one of the most significant agreements, which was signed in 2018 within eight agreements to coordinate partnership and cooperation between Qatar Charity and UNHCR to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action with a view to achieving their common humanitarian goals. Besides, Qatar Charity has recently signed three agreements with UNHCR for the displaced and refugees in Iraq and Yemen, in addition to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

I would like to point out that Qatar Charity's cooperation with UN and international organizations started as of 1997, and it enhanced this collaboration by signing 77 cooperation agreements in many fields, with a total value exceeding 76 million US dollars.

These agreements included strategic cooperation and collaboration in various fields of humanitarian and development work, such as relief, resettlement



of the displaced, livelihoods, water, sanitation, logistic cooperation, food, agriculture, food security, health, social welfare, exchange of experts, and resource mobilization. Many countries including Palestine, Somalia, Pakistan, Iraq, Sudan, Yemen, Niger, Syria, and Bangladesh, benefited from these projects implemented under this cooperation.

#### What is the strategy Qatar Charity for mobilizing resources and engaging the rest of society in Qatar?

Qatar Charity has developed its strategies to mobilize resources through the various stages of its growth since its inception. It relied primarily on the desires of individual donors, taking advantage of the culture of giving and charity embedded in society.

With the passage of time, Qatar Charity has opened up to institutional mechanisms to mobilize resources, especially the investment endowment, which was also based on the support of individual donors, but it is distinguished by its sustainable nature.

At the same time, Qatar Charity paid great attention to involve and incorporate others like the Qatari business sector into charitable work to volunteer, help others, and support Qatar Charity's humanitarian and development efforts.

It is for this reason that Qatar Charity has developed and innovated community initiatives, and worked on long-term strategic partnerships with local companies and institutions, providing them with opportunities to benefit from the extended experiences of Qatar Charity in designing and implementing effective development programs professionally, and adopting a scientific methodology in managing and measuring their effects. Corporate social responsibility financed field projects and volunteer teams followed up on the

ground until their successful implementation.

#### To what extent does Qatar Charity contribute to supporting the State of Qatar's efforts to achieve sustainable global development?

The humanitarian and charitable work reflects one of the bright faces of the State of Qatar and the values of its people in extending a helping hand to victims of crises and disasters and delivering assistance to those in need.

The effort of charitable organizations is supportive of the country's efforts and complementary to its role. Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) funds

often some projects implemented by charitable organizations of the country.

The Qatari charities also take part in the efforts of government agencies, for example, Qatar's Darfur Development Initiative, to bring peace, stability and

reconstruction, and work on the development of poor communities by implementing infrastructure projects and providing basic services.

#### How do the values and customs of the Qatari community support Qatar Charity's projects?

In financing its campaigns and mobilizing support for its projects, Qatar Charity relies on the inherent values of the people of Qatar who are known since ancient times for their solidarity, cooperation, and love to do good, help the oppressed, participate in relieving the pain of the afflicted, and sympathize with humanitarian issues. The greatest revenues of Qatar Charity, therefore, come from the donations and support of the Qatari people, who are inspired by the good habits of their ancestors, like their love to volunteer, take part in the community service, and help those in need.

## Qatar Charity will open nine new country offices worldwide



# Robot to advance education in Palestine

Education is very essential and important to build societies and develop the economy of countries, especially those suffering from the scarcity of natural resources. Therefore, countries seeking progress, bringing about a renaissance and building economy, attach special importance to knowledge, and try to improve the quality of education.

Because of the difficult conditions and challenges faced by the education sector in Palestine, Qatar Charity (QC) has initiated the implementation plan focusing on providing quality education through technology, using a robot. The drive came in cooperation with the Ministry of Education in the West Bank.

## Project Goal:

The project aims to improve the quality and outputs of education by integrating technology into the education system. Some 64 schools have been provided with complementary tools (education robot kit) to utilize their capabilities for the betterment of the academic performance of students.

The project benefited 1,040 students and 785 teachers and supervisors. The project targeted 64 schools in all governorates and 17 districts in the West Bank, at a total cost of 55,871.72 USD.

## Training Workshops

Some 145 teachers and supervisors participated in 9-day training workshops held in various governorates of the West Bank and were trained on the robot technology, artificial intelligence,

programming and scientific research, in addition to enhancing the role of school administrators in supporting students.

The workshops included lectures and practical exercises on the robot, artificial intelligence, their relationship to the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), and designing and building robot models, using EV3 Education Robot Kits.

The workshops also included lectures and practical exercises on laws and mechanisms to control a robot competition according to international standards, how to form and manage student teams of schools, and challenges faced by the cities in the future, and the use of robot technology and artificial intelligence in them.

## Future Plans:

Some 640 male and female students of 64 schools from all governorates of the West Bank are currently receiving training on the robot technology, artificial intelligence, programming and scientific research, and learning many skills to be creative and innovative.

In the next stage, the project will also provide an opportunity to the students to exhibit their creativity in the field of robotics and artificial intelligence, and scientific research through their participation in robot competitions. The project will also get their parents involved in supporting this trend by inviting them to attend activities and competitions aimed at enhancing the role of society in supporting creative projects.





# Auto-rickshaw brings back a dignified life to a family of six in Mirpur



Mr. Jahangir, an auto-rickshaw driver by profession and a sole breadwinner for his family of six, had to sell out his auto-rickshaw, which was his only source of income, to cover his wife surgery and newborn baby girl medical expenses at a hospital.

This happened a month before a magnitude 5.8 earthquake hit Mirpur in Pakistan-administered Kashmir on September 2019, 24, killing 39 people, leaving more than 1,600 injured, and damaging 2206 houses completely and more than 6000 homes partially.

The earthquake has already damaged Jahangir's family house badly, bringing further difficulties to his life. Now he is living in a tent along with his family provided by some organization.

Jahangir said, "I had only a source of income 'auto Rickshaw' that I had to sell out to pay for C-section surgery of my wife for the delivery of a baby girl," adding that the earthquake has already made us homeless, forcing my family to live in a tent."

The challenging financial conditions of Jahangir did not allow his children to continue their

education at a school. "I became jobless and was hardly managing food expenses, and due to school expenses, I had no option rather than to take out my children from school," said Jahangir.

However, a ray of hope came to start over when Jahangir was identified as one of the most deserving persons during the assessment carried out by Qatar Charity. The verification team of Qatar Charity reached to Jahangir's home, and he was recommended as an auto-rickshaw beneficiary.

The auto-rickshaw provided by Qatar Charity helps Jahangir earn a living and generate an income dignifiedly to support his family. Jahangir reenrolled his children at a school. He is now planning to repair his house in near future.

"With Qatar Charity's support, my children became able to go to school again with other children of my village," said Jahangir, pointing out that "I can earn a living by driving the auto-rickshaw, for which I am very thankful to Qatar Charity and all of those who supported me."





Rakh Kotla' of Pakistan's Panjab declared  
a 100 % open defecation free village

# Improving sanitation in Pakistan's rural areas

*Report by Remla Tosee, Pakistan*

Many scholars and scientists consider sanitation as one of the tremendous achievements of humankind in the twentieth century, because it has a significant impact on people's health and the safety of the environment. However, there are still many communities worldwide with no sanitation facilities, causing deadly diseases and epidemics.







Many scholars and scientists consider sanitation as one of the tremendous achievements of humankind in the twentieth century, because it has a significant impact on people's health and the safety of the environment. However, there are still many communities worldwide with no sanitation facilities, causing deadly diseases and epidemics.

"Rakh Kotla" also known as Bihari Colony, a village in Tehsil Shorko of Jhang District in the Pakistani province of Punjab was with no basic sanitation facilities such as toilets or latrines for a longer time. However, with the intervention of Qatar Charity, 100% population of Bihari Colony has now improved sanitation and safe access to toilet and safe drinking water.

This locality is comprised of small hamlets with a population of an estimated 1500 persons. Like other impoverished parts of Southern Punjab, poverty in this area is rampant and access to basic life amenities is meager thus resulting in poor dietary and health and hygiene conditions among the inhabitants of this locality. The structure of houses in this region is muddy.

The level of miseries was much deeper among the destitute i.e. person with disability (PWDs), ranging up to dozens of physically challenged people. Due to high illiteracy rate, the level of awareness about better health & hygiene practices was very low. Only

a handful of households had better toilet facilities and open defecation among the male and female masses was a common practice.

Out of 227 households in the village, only 117 households had toilets in their homes before the intervention of Qatar Charity and in partnership with UNICEF. Besides, the marginalized community does not have a proper drainage system for domestic liquid waste that added even more to their sanitation and hygiene challenges. The same case was with water in this area. The water sources in this area were open ponds and other alternate sources for human consumption.

The open defecation, non-availability of domestic toilets, absence of safe water sources, and no personal hygiene awareness have caused the spread of diseases e.g. diarrhea, vomiting, typhoid, malaria, skin and eyes allergic among villagers, mainly children. Overall mortality and morbidity rate was alarmingly high in the village prior to Qatar Charity's interventions in the village.

For many years, there was a lone voice advocating the use of latrines in the village – that of Abdur Razzaq, president of Rakh Kotla Village WASH Committee. "I was the first person in this village to construct a latrine in my house, back in 2014," said Abdur Razzaq, adding that he was able to efficiently advise and assist the villagers in the construction of



## Empowering impoverished communities by strengthening access to better sanitation and hygiene facilities

the latrines to prevent the spread of diseases.

### Qatar Charity Response

Aiming at assisting the impoverished communities in poor rural areas of Pakistan, Qatar Charity, in partnership with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), launched a project under the title to Accelerated Sanitation and Water for All (ASWA) to enable the local population to have better health and hygiene facilities.

The project mainly focused on establishing facilities for bringing access to clean water suitable for human consumption, strengthening cooperation, building toilets at a household level, and educating and mobilizing the local communities for self-help and resilience.

The aim of implementing ASWA project for Bihari Colony was to introduce the local masses with new and better health and hygiene services and habits. Qatar Charity, in partnership with UNICEF, launched the ASWA project in December 2018 focusing both on providing material support and enhancing the capacities of the local population by training and educating them. This included but not limited to the construction of toilet facilities.

### Significant WASH Project

With assistance from Qatar Charity, the local communities prepared 'Community Action Plan for WASH' and the 'School Action Plan for WASH' to enable the local folks to understand and draw better implementation plans.

Under the ASWA Project, Qatar Charity, in partnership with UNICEF, completed the construction of 14500 household and school toilets in Shorkot Tehsil while in the locality of Rakh Kotla,



a total of 110 household latrines were constructed. Because of this intervention, the government declared Rakh Kotlaas 100 % open defecation free village. In addition, Qatar Charity has also built 50 WASH projects in the Bihari Lalla Mosque area.

### Huge Impact

The implementation of the project has brought a noticeable decline in water-borne diseases, reduced the monthly treatment costs that poor families had to spend previously, and decreased mortality and morbidity rate.

Qatar Charity, in partnership with UNICEF, is implementing a WASH project in Punjab, Pakistan to benefit nearly 270,000 people.

The project, which will continue until 2020, generally aims to change the culture of rural citizens related to sanitation, hygiene and safe drinking water. The project is being implemented in 98 villages and 350 schools in coordination with the Ministries of Education and Health..





Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad  
bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah

Model Orphans  
City in Sudan



*Ismail Jibril Teso / Khartoum*

Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah Model Orphans City has been welcoming orphans and their families with open arms, since it was opened in April 2017. This date is a milestone in the journey of orphans in Sudan, with establishing a humanitarian edifice that provides them with sponsorship and care in compliance with the saying of Almighty (And they ask you about orphans. Say, «Improvement for them is best. And if you mix your affairs with theirs - they are your brothers. And Allah knows the corrupter from the amender. And if Allah had willed, He could have put you in difficulty. Indeed, Allah is Exalted in Might and Wise.)





The 'Rofaqa Village' of Ad-Dāmar, the capital of the River Nile state in Sudan, located 300 km north of the capital, Khartoum, is one of the bright projects implemented by Qatar Charity in the country. The construction of the village amounted to 13\$ million, to sponsor 1100 orphans under the age of eighteen, living along with their families in 200 well-furnished houses built in the latest constructional style to achieve family stability.

### Free Health Services

Qatar Charity has sponsored orphans and their families at the Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah Model Orphans City, which offers health services at a modern health center, managed by trained and specialized medical personnel, providing free treatments, medicines for chronic diseases, and life-saving drugs.

### Education of Orphans and Support for Teachers

As education is a foundation to build and develop

nations, the Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah Model Orphans City has been keen to allocate a large area for the construction of two primary schools and two secondary schools and a kindergarten, which have been built in the latest modern style, and equipped with all the requirements to help orphans make a better academic performance at schools.

Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah Model Orphans City, which sponsors 23 teachers, has a vocational training institute specialized in the field of electricity, blacksmithing and leather products, in addition to tailoring and sewing clothes.

### Investment Projects

The city, which has contributed to bringing stability and warmth to the families of orphans, made a change in the lives of many people, for whom Qatar Charity has also provided investment projects, after conducting the necessary field studies. Fatima



Abdullah, a mother of three orphans, who runs a store selling cooking gas, says, "The shop made a big economic shift for the family, meeting their basic needs and getting them out of poverty."

### Fatima Out of Poverty

Fatima narrated her ordeal, which started since the death of her husband in 2016. She along with her children shifted to a rented house, where they live together with Fatima's joint family, with a father unemployed due to retirement. This situation put great pressure on Fatima and her orphan children who were attending schools that were costing them additional expenses.

Fatima has expressed her heartfelt to Qatar Charity for taking her out of poverty, bringing a better life by shifting her along with her three children and parents to the Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah Model Orphans, which provided them with a luxurious and comfortable residence,

free education for children, and cooking gas selling store that has 40 cylinders

### Family Stability

Hanan Bashir is another widow who has a comfortable accommodation that achieved a family stability for Hanan and her two orphaned daughters, whose fathers died in 2014. The mother of the two girls was handed over a store selling spices to help achieve her personal aspirations and raise the level of her family economically.

### Delighted Hanan

Utilizing the profits of the store, Hanan managed to add a spice mill, and a legume chopper to the store, in addition to buying shelves. She is delighted at the shift that occurred in her economic life, as she became the owner of the store selling spices after she used to sell brooms before moving to the city, thanks to Allah the Almighty and with the support of Qatar Charity.

### Hope Restored

Abbas Ahmed Al-Khidr, director of the Sheikha Aisha bint Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiyah Model Orphans City, said the city has restored hope and brought happiness to orphans and their families, who were suffering from deprivation of basic needs and going through poverty and destitution.

Al-Khidr thanked Qatar Charity for delivering assistance, providing continuous sponsorship, and offering free education and health services for orphans and their families at their places of residence in the city, in addition to sharing with them the joy of Ramadan and Eids.





## Kuwait

### Qatar Charity signs agreement with IOM

Qatar Charity has signed a co-operation agreement with the United Nations International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Kuwait with the aim of implementing urgent response projects in Iraq, Yemen and Syria, with 1\$mn funding from Qatar Charity.

The agreement was signed by Assistant CEO for the International Operations and Partnerships Sector at Qatar Charity Faisal Rashid al-Fehaida and IOM Kuwait's Chief of Mission Iman Ereiqtat.

Under the agreement, urgent response projects will be implemented in Iraq at a total cost of 600,000\$, benefiting 107,000 people. The projects will support health and protection services in Nineveh city, rebuild 120 destroyed homes in Mosul and respond

to the water crisis in Al Qurnah, Basra.

The agreement also stipulated support for the project to improve the quality of maternal and child care in Yemen, at an estimated cost of 200,000\$, benefiting 4,000 people, mostly children.

Meanwhile, about 4,000 people affected by the Syrian crisis will benefit from multisectoral aid in Syria, at an estimated cost of 200,000\$.



## Somalia

### Pact with Somalia's Ministry of Energy and Water Resources

Qatar Charity (QC) signed a co-operation and partnership agreement with the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources in Mogadishu, Somalia to continue its efforts for the benefit of those affected by recurrent droughts and floods.

The deal aims to support the efforts of the ministry in achieving sustainable development gradually in the energy and water sector of Somalia, in co-ordination and co-operation with relevant governmental international authorities.

The agreement was signed by Somalia's Minister of Energy and Water Resources Fawzia Mohamed Sheikh, and Director of Qatar Charity's office in Somalia Abdalnour Haj Ali, in the presence of the deputy minister of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and many members of the ministry.

The co-operation between the ministry and Qatar Charity includes drilling deep and surface water wells and ponds, repairing deep-water wells, installing solar-powered water pumps for drilled wells, and training technical personnel in the field of renewable energy and water technology and other water and energy sectors.



## Pakistan

### UNICEF chooses Qatar Charity as a partner to implement relief projects

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has chosen Qatar Charity (QC) as a partner in carrying out urgent relief interventions in Punjab, Pakistan.

This selection came in accordance with the emergency cooperation and partnership agreement signed by Ms. Aida Girma, UNICEF Representative in Pakistan, and Mr. Amin Abdul Rahman, director of Qatar Charity's office in Pakistan.

Under this pact, Qatar Charity will implement relief interventions within 24 hours of the approval of UNICEF to a state of emergency declaration in the province of Punjab, and it will remain fully prepared for any emergencies and humanitarian operations.

The agreement worth more than one million US

dollars is valid for four year, as of December 2019 to December 2023. UNICEF chooses its partners very carefully after evaluating organizations.

UNICEF conducted an evaluation of Qatar Charity in 2016 and found it among the organizations meeting the terms and conditions of the partnership.



## Bangladesh

### Medical checkups for children at three orphanages

Qatar Charity (QC) carried out free medical examinations and consultations for more than 2,000 orphans and children of the families most in need at three orphanages in Bangladesh.

Medical checkups were held at the 'Khubaib Bin Adi (R) Orphanage' situated in Madhaa Kachua Sardar Para of the Rangpur District, Mohammad Ajjaj AL Kubaisi Orphanage' located in Dhamrai Upojela under the district of Manikganj and 'Hazi Asmat Ali Girls Center' placed in Vairab under the district of Kishorganj.

The medical tests included temperature measurement, blood pressure, heartbeat, respiratory rate and other tests in addition to providing medical consultations.





## Qatar

### Minister of Culture and Sports honors winners in «Future's Writers - 3»

The Minister of Culture and Sports, H E Salah bin Ghanem Al Ali honored the winners in the "Future's Writers3-", who singed their printed books at Qatar Charity's pavilion at the 30th edition of the Doha International Book Fair (DIBF) held from January 9th to 18th, 2020

H E the Minister praised Qatar Charity's "Future's Writers" program, noting that it came in the appropriate time and place, because it produces a generation of future writers.

In a statement, H E the Minister the program, since its inception, has succeeded in launching many books written by children, adding that he was impressed by the quality and language of some books he has seen.



## Qatar

### Qatar Charity organizes customer service training in Doha

Qatar Charity (QC) organized a specialized training course on customer service in Doha, in cooperation with the Maximize Training Center. Some 20 employees, both male and female, participated in the three-day training course.

The training included the components of customer service, the characteristics of each customer, the importance and values of customer service, and offering the service to customers. It also included the goals of the Customer Service Charter, customer journey, the personal impression, and the importance of respect and friendliness in dealing with clients.

This training course is the first one of the four

specialized training programmes, according to the 2020 plan. The training department at Qatar Charity conducted an evaluation of the candidates before the start of the course with the participation of trainers and specialists.



## Lebanon

### \$ 1.5 million agreement with UNHCR to help Syrian refugees in Lebanon fight coronavirus

**Q**atar Charity (QC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) signed a US \$ 1.5 million agreement to provide emergency cash assistance to Syrian refugees across Lebanon in response to humanitarian needs caused by the spread of the Coronavirus outbreak.

The agreement comes within the framework of Qatar Charity's Coronavirus Prevention and Response Plan to support and scale up vulnerable countries' preparedness and response efforts. The response plan was initiated by Qatar Charity in March and is currently implemented across 27 countries.

«The Coronavirus pandemic is a crisis within a crisis, and it will undoubtedly affect the lives of forcibly

displaced persons,» said Yousef Al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity. «Cooperation with UNHCR allows us to provide urgent support in various forms to improve the living conditions of refugees during these difficult times.»

The agreement stems from a longstanding track record of cooperation between Qatar Charity and United Nations agencies in support of vulnerable populations. In 2019 alone, Qatar Charity signed 11 cooperation agreements with United Nations agencies to fund international projects.



## Palestine

### Qatar Charity signs MoU for medical waste management in Gaza

Qatar Charity's (QC) office in Ramallah, Palestine has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Local Government to complete a project of establishing and operating a medical waste management system in the Gaza Strip, in co-operation with the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) and local partners.

The MoU was signed by Minister of Local Government Majdi al-Saleh and the director of Qatar Charity's office in Ramallah, Palestine, Huthayfa Said Jalamna, in the presence of representatives of the JICA delegation headed by Abe Toshiya, chief representative of the JICA Palestine Office.

Qatar Charity will supply, install and operate the

solar energy system to provide electricity for operating the medical waste treatment device at the treatment plant in the southern Gaza Strip, in addition to the supply, installation and operation of a medium-voltage power grid for the medical waste treatment plant.





## 2.4 million beneficiaries of Qatar Charity's Ramadan projects worldwide

Under the slogan "Calm Your Heart by Giving", Qatar Charity (QC) has started the implementation of its Ramadan campaign for the year 1441 AH / 2020 AD in Qatar and other 30 countries across the globe, aiming to benefit 2.4 million people worldwide at a cost of QR 119 million.

### Within Qatar

The Ramadan projects of Qatar Charity implemented within the State of Qatar target 420,900 persons at a cost of 34,029,352 Qatari riyals. These projects include the mobile Iftar project, which contains Iftar meals and food baskets for workers, in addition to Ramadan supplies for families with limited income,

The social Ramadan projects include Eid clothing for the children of low-income families, Eid gifts for orphans, and Zakat Al Fitr, in addition to projects to encourage volunteering and voluntary initiatives, and empower low-income families by training via remote technologies.

This year's Ramadan projects also include assistance for those affected by the coronavirus (COVID - 19), including workers and low-income families.

### Outside of Qatar

Qatar Charity aims to benefit 1,960,028 people in 30 countries across the globe at an estimated cost of 85,140,826 Qatari riyals this Ramadan. Qatar charity's Ramadan projects include 'Feed a Fasting Person', Zakat Al Fitr, and Eid Clothing projects, in addition to delivering relief food aid in areas of disasters and crises, and providing assistance to those affected by the coronavirus.



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