



Dry Ration Packages for One Million Meals Project Ready for Distribution

## Newsletter

Fall 2008

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A US based 501(C)(3)  
Non-Profit Organization  
Tax ID # 77-0502583

## One Million Meals

*Allah `s Messenger (PBUH) said, "The most excellent sadaqah consists in your satisfying a hungry stomach." (Tirmidhi #1946)*

In the blessed month of Ramadan, we are reminded that this is the best time to give and to receive multiplied rewards from our Creator. This month of giving couldn't have come soon enough as food prices are soaring and poverty is rising worldwide. Millions of people are hungry and unable to even feed their children one square meal in a day. Under its One Million Meals Project, Hidaya Foundation distributes dry ration among some of the most deserving populations worldwide. Typically, dry ration packages are comprised of flour, rice, lentils, dry milk powder, sugar, tea, spices, cooking oil, and more. It costs only **50 cents per meal**, so \$50 can provide 100 meals and \$500 can provide 1,000 meals. From July through December this year, Hidaya will be distributing over 750,000 meals, Insha'Allah.



Hidaya Preparing Cooked Meals for Distribution

### Fidyah

*"As for those who have not the capacity to bear the strain of fasting, for such the substitute is the feeding of an indigent person..." [Al-Quran 2:184]*

For those unable to fast such as the sick, weak, and elderly, the fidya (compensation) for each day of missed fast should be given. Fidyah (in U.S.A) of each day is **\$3.50** according to Hanafi school of thought and **\$7.00** per other schools of thought. Hidaya distributes fidya in the form of meals amongst the poor. ♦



## Why Donate to Hidaya?

- Hidaya has one of the lowest overhead costs among non-profit organizations.
- Every year, Hidaya has its financials audited by an independent auditor.
- All international sister organizations of Hidaya, have been audited each year since their inception.
- Hidaya management and Board of Directors are easily accessible to the community - you can contact them by phone or e-mail and connect with them directly at anytime.
- Considering the majority of funds received by Hidaya are Zakat funds, we make sure our team is fully trained on Zakat requirements. To safeguard the donors' obligation towards the Creator, recipients are investigated before Zakat is given to them.
- Hidaya was founded, and is operated, on the idea that this work is done to please the Creator by serving His Creation.
- Hidaya strives to stay away from any gray areas (things which are doubtful) when it comes to Islamic Principles.
- All of our energy is focused on helping the poor; Hidaya has a flat management structure and almost no hierarchy. No politics exist within the organization.
- For Hidaya team members, it is understood that this is not only a job, but rather working at Hidaya is an Ibadah (worship) as well since they may be rewarded by Allah for the work, and may be held accountable for any wrong actions.
- Hidaya team members make sure to avoid any wrong actions which may remove any Barakah (blessings) from the work and the Protection from the Creator.
- Hidaya Foundation works very cautiously when executing projects to ensure that money and goods do not fall in to the wrong hands. This is to ensure the safety of donors, the organization, and also that the poor and needy benefit from maximum assistance.

## Project Updates



Water Hand Pump Installed in a Village



In Shahdakot, People Travel from Miles Away to get Potable Water

### Water Hand Pump Project

The lack of availability of clean drinking water is a major problem in developing countries. Water-borne diseases are rampant in economically depressed areas because villagers are left with no choice but to drink from stagnant water sources which hold disease causing micro-organisms. The most economical solution is to install hand pumps to draw clean water from the ground. The average cost of installing a hand pump, along with maintenance of the pump for 5 years is **\$200**. So far in 2008, Hidaya has installed 156 water hand pumps, and repaired several others.

Currently, Hidaya is working with Environmental Hydrogeology consultants for a potable water project in the Qamber/ Shahdad Kot District in Pakistan. The district has a total population of about 1.2 million people. Over 50% of the population is suffering with Hepatitis due to the non-availability of fresh potable water. Intentions for this project are to identify water sources and their depth in the area, using the help of electrical resistivity surveys. If, after the survey, fresh ground water is not discovered, then reverse osmosis plants for cleaning saline water will be installed so that badly needed fresh water becomes available. ♦

**Myanmar Cyclone Relief** On Sunday May 4, 2008, Cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar (Burma) with wind speeds of up to 120 mph. The Ayeyarwady Delta area, mostly populated by poor rice farmers, was the most severely hit zone. Tens of thousands were killed in this major catastrophe, millions more have lost their homes and a massive amount of the country's crops were destroyed. Hidaya raised approximately \$65,000 for relief; the funds are being distributed for rehabilitation projects in phases through a local partner which was qualified by Hidaya. Funds will go primarily to affected students and orphans. ♦

**Marriage Support** Because of poverty, countless families in South Asian countries are unable to get their young daughters and sisters married. Hidaya Foundation supports such families in these difficult situations by providing them with financial assistance to offset marriage expenses. Depending on the region, it costs approximately **\$200 to \$300** to support the marriage of one girl. Hidaya also offers basic items necessary for the newlywed girls. Gift packages include dresses, shoes, utensils, bedding, fans, sewing machines, and more.

In 2007, Hidaya helped 278 poor girls to get married. In 2008, we have already helped 242 girls to-date. ♦



Gift Package Received by a Father for his Daughter's Marriage



A Couple of Young Orphans who Receive Support from Hidaya Each Month from Your Donations

# Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice



The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Sacrifice for the sake of Allah in any month whatever; obey Allah, Most High, and feed (the people)." (Abu-Dawood #2824)

The Prophet (pbuh) said, "The most excellent sadaqah consists in your satisfying a hungry stomach." (Tirmidhi #1946)

**Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice** is performed year round in economically depressed areas of the world. Sacrifice is performed within 72 hours of request, and meat is distributed to the needy.

## No Orphan without Education

### Objectives of this Project are to:

- Provide financial support for basic survival needs of orphan children
- Offer financial support to put them through schools and colleges
- Monitor their progress to ensure that they complete their education
- Remove obstacles that may hinder their progress
- Help divert the children from potential child labor practices



Hidaya Team Member Monitoring Orphans in Class

progress in school is a key process under this project. Hidaya team members assigned to each child meet regularly with teachers, school officials and guardians to ensure that they do not fall behind in studies. To further help students excel, Hidaya offers after-school programs to provide hands-on training in basic computer skills. To date, 10% of the supported orphans have undergone this innovative technology training program.

Currently, Hidaya is supporting 903 orphans and 374 widowed mothers under this project. By the end of 2008 over 1500 orphans and 600 widows are expected to benefit from this project.

The cost to support an orphan ranges between **\$30** and **\$50** per month depending on the region. Your donation to support this noble cause can help an orphan child lead a normal life – a worthwhile cause in this world and the hereafter. ♦

### Giving Sadaqah Regularly

Aisha narrated that "The most beloved action to Allah's Messenger (pbuh) was that whose doer did it continuously and regularly." (Bukhari #8.76.469)

By signing up for the **Automatic Monthly Withdrawal Program**, Hidaya Foundation can arrange for sadaqah to be performed on your behalf each month for as long as you would like.

To sign up for Automatic Monthly Withdrawal: Download the "Auto Withdrawal" form from our website in the "Donate" section and mail it to us, or call us at 866.244.3292 for assistance.

- \$85.00 for a Goat/Lamb
- \$300.00 for an Ox/Buffalo

### Aqiqah

Hidaya arranges **Aqiqah** (sacrifice at the time of a child's birth). The Sunnah is to sacrifice 2 goats for a newborn boy and 1 for a girl and invite family and friends to eat. Hidaya distributes the Meat to the needy.

**H**idaya Foundation has taken the monumental challenge of reaching out to orphans to make them feel that there are people in this world who love and care for them.

To ensure that the children attend schools and are not forced to work in child labor activities, Hidaya offers a monthly allowance to widowed mothers to ensure that the basic needs of their children are met. In addition each orphan is given a monthly allowance, school tuition, school uniforms, a couple of pairs of shoes, books & stationary. In some cases, other family needs such as healthcare, housing repairs, water hand pumps and more, are also provided to ensure that the bare-minimum needs of school-going children are met.

Ongoing monitoring of the orphans'

## Independent Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year 2007

With the blessings of Allah (swt), on March 5, 2008 Hidaya Foundation successfully completed its 2007 financial audit. A copy of the audited financial statements is available for your review at: [www.hidaya.org](http://www.hidaya.org). ♦

**Get Detailed Answers to Your Questions about Zakat (Alms)**  
[www.hidaya.org/zakat](http://www.hidaya.org/zakat)

## Zakat Calculator

Item	Value
Total Gold value without jewels	
Total Silver value without jewels	
Cash on Hand	
Checking Account	
Savings Account	
Business Bank Account(s)	
Stocks & Mutual Funds	
Business Merchandise Inventory	
Retirement Plans (401k/IRA/ etc.)	
Real Estate (excluding personal residence)	
Accounts Receivable	
Other funds (profit, trust accounts, partnerships, etc.)	
Sub Total	
Less deductible liabilities only	
TOTAL	
TOTAL x 0.025 (Zakat you have to pay)	

## Board of Directors

Waseem Baloch (Santa Clara, CA)  
Mazhar Uddin (Dayton, NJ)  
Irfan Baloch (Switzerland)  
Adeel Ahmed (Dallas, TX)  
Mohamed S. Shamsuddin (Santa Clara, CA)

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US Postage Paid  
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Permit No. 138

## Zakat Distribution

Hidaya Foundation collects and distributes Zakat donations per Shariah (Islamic Law) guidelines as mentioned in Chapter 9: Verse 60 in Al-Quran.

Zakat is distributed in the form of basic necessities such as dry ration and cash to orphans, widows, poor elderly, families in extreme poverty, to poor students for tuition and school supplies, and to the sick for medical assistance.

The proper distribution of Zakat is a personal responsibility for every Muslim who has nisab (a minimum amount of wealth). You are encouraged to give Zakat yourself, preferably, or to a reliable organization whose team is trained about zakat and has the ability to distribute it per Islamic guidelines.

Currently, Hidaya provides hundreds of deserving individuals with monthly zakat assistance. Thousands more are given zakat assistance one or more times throughout the year. ♦

## Sadaqat-ul-Fitr

Sadaqat-ul-Fitr, also known as Zakat-ul-Fitr, is an obligatory charity that every Muslim who possesses Nisab should pay during Ramadan so the less fortunate Muslims can enjoy their Eid. It must be paid before Eid-ul-Fitr, as Hidaya uses these donations for providing dry ration before Eid. This Ramadan, the cost of Sadaqat-ul-Fitr is \$3.50 per person according to Hanafi school of thought and \$7.00 according to other major schools of thought. ♦

## Help Reduce Costs

Do you know that you can donate online ([www.hidaya.org](http://www.hidaya.org)) using your checking account? It costs only 30 cents per transaction, and is processed instantly. For Hidaya, this is the most convenient and cost effective method of processing your donation. ♦

## Donation Form

Hidaya Foundation is a non-profit 501(C)(3) charitable organization with US Tax ID # 77-0502583.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Zakat / Alms  
Sadaqah / Charity  
Sadaqat-ul-Fitr (\$3.50 or \$7.00 per person)  
Fidya (\$3.50 or \$7.00 per day missed)

No Orphan without Education (\$30 - 50/month)  
Marriage Support for Poor Girls (\$200 - \$300 each)  
Water Hand Pump Project (\$200 each)  
One Million Meals (\$25 for 50, \$250 for 500 meals)  
Sadaqah in Form of Sacrifice (\$85 goat, \$300 cow)

Other : \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \_\_\_\_\_

Zakat  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name on the card:        

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: (mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_

To unsubscribe from future mailings please email your name and address to [mail@hidaya.org](mailto:mail@hidaya.org)

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