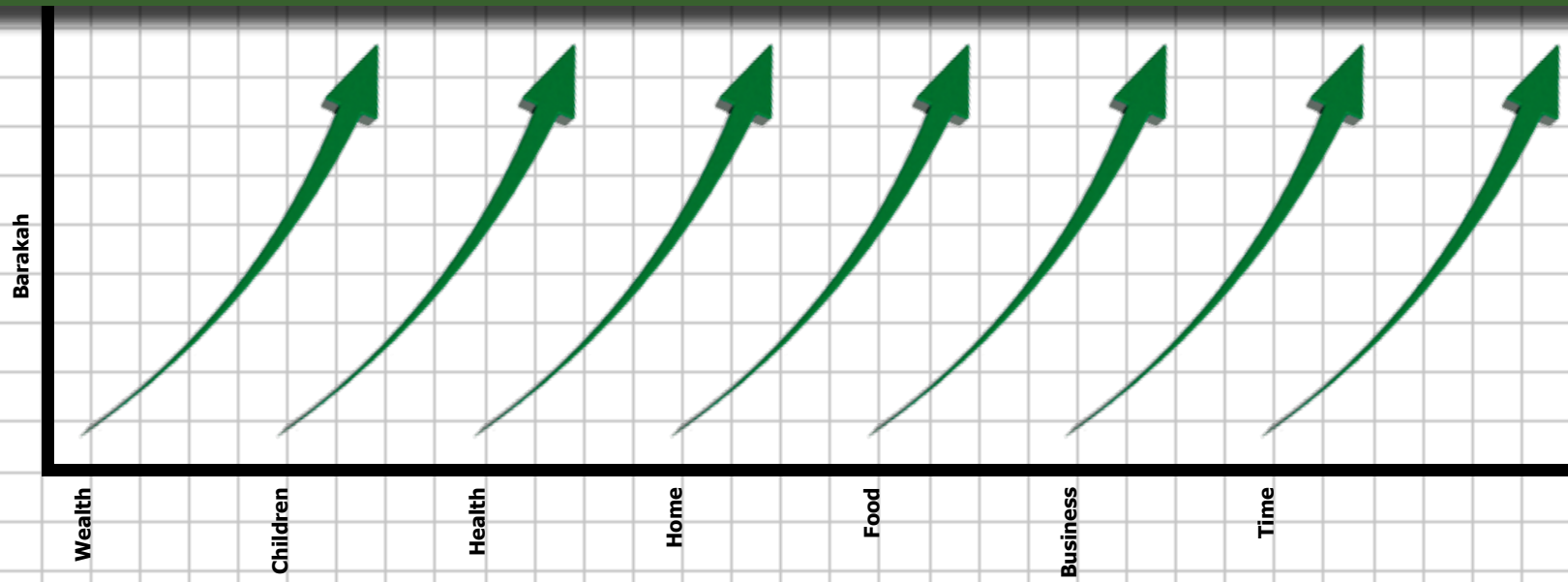




Hidaya Foundation

P.O. BOX 5481, Santa Clara, CA 95056
(866) 2-HIDAYA | www.hidaya.org



Newsletter Rabiul Awwal 1435/2014

In this Issue:

- **Putting Things in Perspective: Means of Bringing Barakah into One's Wealth and Life**
- **The Many Benefits of Hidaya's Container Shipment Project for In-Kind Donations**
- **Record Year for Water Hand Pump Installation**
- **Hidaya's Unique Program: Information & Communications Technology**
- **Support Hidaya Schools**
- **Hidaya's 2013 Accomplishments**

Hidaya Foundation

1765 Scott Blvd., Suite # 115
Santa Clara, CA 95050
866-244-3292 or 866-2HIDAYA
mail@hidaya.org



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

Putting Things in Perspective: Means of Bringing Barakah Into One's Wealth and Life

In a growing epidemic, we are finding that more and more, people are living from paycheck to paycheck, and finding themselves constantly stressed out and strained due to their money not being enough. It is even common to find people with good jobs and high salaries in this same situation. The problem most of the time is not that there is a lack of wealth, but a lack of barakah (divine blessings) in the wealth. Below are some ways to bring barakah back in to one's wealth and life, as a reminder to all of us:

1. Earn a lawful (Halal) income.
2. Work with excellence, loyalty and honesty, and do not squander the time and resources that your employer is paying for.
3. Purify your intention to earn for Allah's sake, to provide for your family, to not have to borrow and ask from others, and to do works of good for others.
4. Avoid interest in all its forms.
5. Be thankful to Allah for what you have been given.
6. Give in charity: this includes the obligatory charities (Zakat, Sadaqatul-Fitr and the Qurbani for those with sufficient wealth), but also optional charity to good causes.
7. Be God-conscious and increase in piety.
8. Place your full trust in Allah Most High: Know that Allah is providing for you and sustaining you at each moment.
9. Establish prayer (al-salah) in your home: work to establish the obligatory prayers amongst your family, and encourage extra optional (nafl) prayers as well.
10. Read Qur'an in the home: the reading of Surah Al-Waqi'ah is known to prevent poverty in a house.
11. Be generous and give gifts: this means giving people around you things that they love, from the things that you love.

12. Be obedient, dutiful and respectful to your parents.
 13. Keep up family ties and do good to relatives.
 14. Do not lie or say false oaths.
 15. Give a little more than what you owe people when selling or paying someone.
 16. Try to work in mornings, as the Prophet (peace be upon him) prayed, "Oh Allah, give barakah to my Ummah in their early-morning work." [Ibn Majah, Sunan]
 17. Eat together and Invite the pious to eat from your food.
 18. Ask Allah's forgiveness often in your home and elsewhere through saying "astaghfirallah."
 19. Be easy-going, of kind nature, and forgiving to others.
 20. Do not be wasteful and extravagant, nor overly-attached to worldly things: this includes finishing all of one's food and living in moderation.
 22. Ask Allah to put the wealth in your hand, and not in your heart.
 23. Make du'a as the Prophet (pbuh) did during simple daily acts such as eating, sleeping, etc.
- Remember, when a Muslim's finances are tight, this is a test from Allah Most High. It is a mercy in disguise because through something as worldly as wealth, Allah causes us to turn towards Him in earnestness. It teaches us patience, humbleness, and contentment, and results in forgiveness of sins and reliance on Allah, insha'Allah.
- Generally, the best way to attract blessings is to submit ourselves to Allah completely, and attach our hearts to Him alone and make pleasing Him our sole goal and purpose - rather than gaining the material things He blesses us with. Then the barakah should enter our lives from all sides without us having to worry about it, insha'Allah.

Adapted from: <http://seekersguidance.org/ans-blog/2011/03/29/bringing-barakah-into-your-wealth-and-life/>

The Many Benefits of Hidaya's Container Shipment Project for In-Kind Donations



Introducing our new warehouse location at: 57 Bonaventura Dr. in San Jose, CA



Loading donations at our warehouse in USA

Alhamdulillah, since 1999, Hidaya has sent over 200 forty ft. containers to benefit hundreds of thousands of people, mostly in Pakistan.

This is a unique project in which we accept donations of clothing, toys, medical supplies, household items, and more from those of us living in the US who have excess and give them to some of the poorest people in the world who have next to nothing.

What makes Hidaya's In-Kind Donation Project Different from Most Other Charities'?

- We consider the in-kind donations as an amanah just as we do monetary donations, intended to give to the poor. For this reason, we don't sell anything. If we can't ship it, we don't take it.
- Our own trusted team members handle the project from start to finish.

The in-kind donations that are collected and shipped compliment our other projects in Pakistan. For example:

- Clothing packages are given along with meals or stipends for families during mass distributions for *One Million Meals, Disaster Relief, or Zakat Distribution* projects.
- Clothing, shoes and toys are regularly given to the thousands of orphans and widows we support on a monthly basis under *No Orphan without Education* and *Widow/Orphan Support* projects.
- Fancy clothes, dishes, pots and pans and nice household items are given to young women for their marriages along with monetary funds under our *Marriage Support* project.
- Additionally, at times we buy our own containers which we ship the donations in. After unloading donations, we use the containers for storage of supplies at some of our facilities, or even as classrooms for kids under *Support Hidaya Schools* project.

It costs approximately \$4,000 - \$5,000 to ship each container (approx. \$2,000 - \$2,500 for shipping from US to Pakistan, approx. \$1,000 for trucking in US & Pakistan, approx. \$1,000 - \$1,500 for clearing from port & Distribution in Pakistan). *One container is enough to clothe over 10,000 people, please donate towards Container Shipment Project for In-Kind Donations.* ♦



Unloading donations at our warehouse in Pakistan



Some recipients of clothing packages



A container being used as a classroom

If you would like to put on a collection drive in your community, please contact our office at (408) 244-3282.

Record Year for Water Hand Pump Installation



Alhamdulillah, in 2013 under our Clean Drinking Water project, Hidaya installed 1,417 water hand pumps to benefit over 10,950 people throughout Pakistan and Bangladesh.

A Companion of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), Sa'd ibn Ubadah, asked the Messenger of Allah (pbuh), "Umm Sa'd (his mother) has died; what form of Charity (Sadaqah) is best?" He (pbuh) replied: "Water (is best)." He dug a well and said: It is for Umm Sa'd (Abu-Dawood No. 1677)

Installation of a water hand pump is a Sadaqah Jariah, meaning one may receive rewards for as long as people, or wildlife are benefiting from the water. Donate on behalf of yourself, your family, or even deceased loved ones.

It costs \$300 per hand pump, and now if you donate online and provide your email - you could get a confirmation once your hand pump is installed. Also, you could donate towards our water tanker effort, in which **for just \$10, a tanker can deliver 1,200 gallons of water** to thousands of people. ♦

Hidaya Institute of Science and Technology:

A Unique Effort under Hidaya's Information & Communications Technology Program

One of Hidaya's most unique initiatives is our Information and Communications Technology Program. Being headquartered in the Silicon Valley, the world's epicenter for technology, allows us to take the mindset of our volunteers and employees who have years of experience and background in this environment and pass it on to the less fortunate in under developed areas of the world.



Teacher helping student in Software Development class

Hidaya Institute of Science & Technology (HIST) - www.histpk.org:

Hidaya provides hands-on training to Computer Science students and graduates with limited financial resources through Hidaya Institute of Science & Technology (HIST), a division of our sister organization Hidaya Trust in Pakistan. HIST is becoming a well known and prestigious institution among the Software Houses of Pakistan as it is turning out quality engineers for their teams.

Applicants who have completed their Bachelors in Information Communications Technology (ICT) are selected from local Universities, then they are required to pass an entrance test and go through an interview process before being admitted to HIST. Because the students are normally from economically poor backgrounds, they are provided with a stipend to cover their expenses during the training period. To keep it serious, once enrolled, students who are irregular in attendance and lagging behind in training are dropped from their class.

Normally there are about 200 - 250 students in each batch attending a class. Classes last for a period of 4 months, and include a final project in the last month. Students can choose from the following courses:

- **Software Development** (Web technologies including: PHP, ASP.Net, Java, and Android)
- **System Administration** (Linux, Windows Server)
- **Network Administration**

Course materials for these training classes are put together by professionals who are working on cutting edge technologies in the US and review and update to include the latest trends in the industry before the beginning of each

training program. This makes the graduating students more valuable when they are hired by Software Houses.

Around 20 experienced engineers are employed by Hidaya and entrusted to impart the education to the students. They work with students in small groups or on a one-on-one basis to make sure they learn the concepts.

Alhamdulillah, since its establishment in 2009, more than 2,000 engineers have been trained at HIST, and more than 90% of graduates are able to secure jobs right after the training period! Masha'Allah, the institute is giving dignity to thousands of young men and women to stand on their own feet and take care of themselves and their immediate families and give back to their communities.

In addition to teaching students, a core group of HIST engineers are working towards strengthening Hidaya's over-all infrastructure by implementing "Hidaya Paperless System." This paperless system is meant to automate the entire work flow, allowing Hidaya's management to run its charitable programs and projects in an efficient manner and to scale these existing projects to other localities, insha'Allah. As part of this initiative, "Donation Tracking System" is now functional and provides the capability to automatically track specific donations like Qurbani, Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice, Aqiqah, and Water Hand Pump, as well as send donors who donate online an email notification as soon as their requests are completed. Alhamdulillah, it is one of the Blessings of Allah that through HIST, Hidaya is able to upgrade and continuously improve our infrastructure.



Student learning in Basic Computer Skills class

Aside from HIST, Hidaya also offers courses in **Basic Computer Skills** to school-aged students as well as adults. Students of Basic Computer Skills training are imparted with basic computer literacy in use of computers to browse the internet and use document processing applications like Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and more.

Please Donate towards Information and Communications Technology Training Projects.



Support Hidaya Schools



Alhamdulillah, Hidaya Foundation is currently running 64 schools in Pakistan with over 4,600 students from KG - 5th Grade. Hidaya Team members regularly monitor the schools to check on the teachers and students to make sure everyone is doing well. Normally the entire school is supported by Hidaya to keep it running. Support includes the giving of uniforms, school supplies, and stipends to students as well as the training and issuing of salaries for teachers. This project aims to educate an entire generation of young leaders, who come out of poverty and misfortune, so they may become contributing people in their society, insha'Allah.

It costs about \$120 to run a classroom of approximately 40 students for each month.



Feeding Students & Supporting their Families:

During a recent visit to one of Hidaya's schools, upon questioning some of the students, we found out that many of them hadn't eaten for days. It was a very emotional moment for our team when talking to these young students - after all how can anyone expect someone to learn or be productive on a hungry stomach? Since then, we have started offering free breakfast and lunch to students of the school so they may have the energy to do well and perform, insha'Allah.

Most of the students in our schools are given monetary stipends to take home to their families, so their parents/guardians can buy some food and other necessities for the household. To encourage the parents to continue sending their children to school, giving the funds to the students is conditional, in that they must continue attending classes to better themselves.

Please donate towards Support Hidaya Schools project and help us educate a generation of youth.

Hidaya's 2013 Accomplishments

With the Blessings of Allah (SWT) and the support of our donors, in 2013, Hidaya Foundation served hundreds of thousands of people in need. Alhamdulillah, we would like to thank our donors for their generous support, may Allah accept it.

- Spread Education:** Supported over 4,600 students monthly
- No Orphan without Education:** Supported over 9,300 orphans monthly
- Support Hidaya Schools:** Operated 62 schools with over 4,600 students from KG – 5th grade
- Job Skills Training:** Trained and gave sewing machines to 511 students at Hidaya Sewing Center
- Basic Computer Skills:** Educated hundreds of students to acquire basic computer skills at Hidaya Institute of Science and Technology (HIST)
- Software Development Training:** Educated hundreds of students in ASP, JAVA, and PHP technologies at HIST
- System Administration Training:** Educated dozens of students in LINUX and Microsoft technologies at HIST
- Network Administration Training:** Educated dozens of students in Network Administration
- One Million Trees:** Planted nearly 35,000 seedlings
- Clean Drinking Water:** Installed over 1,400 water hand pumps benefiting nearly 11,000 people, and distributed nearly 5,674,800 liters of water via water tanker benefiting over 660,000 individuals
- Small Businesses for the Poor:** Supported 1,779 women by giving them sewing machines to start their own businesses
- Disaster Relief:** Provided aid for people suffering from Pakistan Rains and Floods, Burma Humanitarian Crisis, and Syria Humanitarian Crisis
- Widow/Orphan Support:** Supported nearly 4,200 widows monthly
- Marriage Support:** Helped 357 young women with their marriages
- Container Shipment for In-Kind Donations:** Sent 12 forty ft. containers with relief supplies to Pakistan, worth over \$300,000
- One Million Meals:** Distributed over 18,600 dry ration packages which were given to over 101,700 individuals throughout Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Cameroon
- Sadaqat-ul-Fitr:** Distributed 1,522 dry ration packages to families, benefiting over 9,130 individuals
- Fidya:** Distributed 4,429 dry ration packages to families, benefiting over 26,500 individuals
- Kaffara:** Distributed 607 dry ration packages to families, benefiting over 3,600 individuals
- Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice:** Sacrificed over 1,313 goats and 412 ox and distributed the meat to benefit over 40,660 families
- Aqiqah (Sacrifice) for a newly born child:** Sacrificed 206 goats on behalf of donors and distributed meat to benefit over 2,850 families
- Qurbani:** Arranged 4,229 shares of Qurbani on behalf of our donors (3,381 cow shares, 848 goats) and distributed the meat to over 31,350 poor families in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Cameroon
- Medical Assistance:** Supported 564 poor patients to receive treatment
- Medical Camps:** Held 31 medical camps and treated 2,365 poor patients ♦



Small Businesses for the Poor



One Million Trees



Qurbani



Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice



Medical Assistance

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 _____
 Signature _____ Date _____

Zakat

Container Shipment for In-Kind Donations \$ _____
 Clean Drinking Water (\$300/hand pump, \$10 per tanker) \$ _____
 Information & Communications Technology \$ _____
 (Software Dev, System Admin, Network Admin, Basic Cpu Skills)
 Support Hidaya Schools (\$120 per month for classroom) \$ _____
 Other : \$ _____
 Other : \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

You may sign up for **Automatic Recurring Donation** or **Quick Donations** towards any of our projects on our secure website at: www.hidaya.org/createprofile
 Double your donation with **Corporate Gift Matching**. Contact us if you need help setting it up at your organization.

Name on the card: _____

Card No: _____

Expiry Date: (mm/yy) _____

Board of Directors

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