

KASHMIR ORPHANS RELIEF TRUST

providing *hope* for orphans

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Children Performing at Stone Laying Ceremony

KORT NEWSLETTER

P R O M I S E F U L F I L L E D ! !

The inaugural foundation stone laying ceremony marking the start of building works on KORT'S new education complex was held on 19th August 2008. Thus fulfilling an ambitious pledge made by Ch. Akhtar, during celebrations formalising the historic donation of 100 kanals of land by the AJK Government in September 2007, to begin construction within the year.

The eagerly awaited ceremony was conducted by our special guest The Honorable Ch. Riaz Akhtar, Chief Justice, Supreme Court, AJK, Mohammed Akhtar, KORT chairperson and Rahim Shah, KORT ambassador, in the presence of a large gathering of local dignitaries, children and well-wishers.

Many obstacles had to be overcome in achieving this goal, such as workforce, ground levelling, holidays, officialdom and many others. However despite the multifarious problems encountered the KORT team never lost hope or motivation to overcome these obstacles.

This significant achievement was acknowledged and applauded by Ch. Riaz Akhtar as well as countless other dignitaries and local people in attendance. Ch. Riaz Akhtar stated, 'this is one of the most positive things to come out of the October 2005 earthquake disaster'.

KORT Chairman Ch. Akhtar described the occasion as a defining moment in the short history of KORT and said 'the facility would provide the best opportunities and a legacy for generations to come'. He paid tribute to the trustees stating, 'Our trustees play a very important role within the charity and are actively involved in all areas of the Trust'. He also acknowledged the work of volunteers and thanked everyone for their donations to help realise this ambitious project.

Relocation

In July 08, KORT chairman, Mohammed Akhtar relocated to Mirpur, AJK with his family, for a period of three years initially. This selfless and courageous move has been undertaken solely to ensure the efficient and effective use of financial, human and other resources. He has taken this bold step in spite of having a young daughter, who leaves behind family, friends, school etc and a wife with a condition known as muscular dystrophy who requires constant support and is wheelchair bound.

Akhtar has put into practice his own philosophy of, 'if you want to do something right, do it yourself' and will take on the full project management responsibility. Thereby ensuring that everything is done to the highest quality and no shortcuts are taken.



Children awaiting arrival of Chief Justice on new site



Chief Justice, Chair of KORT and Guest arrive



The stone laying ceremony

Welcome

This is the Ramadhan edition of KORT Newsletter and we have much to report. Ramadhan is a time for contemplation, reflection and spiritual awakening. Ramadhan provides us with the opportunity to think of others less fortunate than ourselves.

Most of all, it is a time for giving, whether Zakat, Sadaqah, Fitrana, Lillah or other. You can find out about the different ways of donating money and how your money is used to improve the life and educational opportunities for the orphan children.

In this edition we share with you our achievements as well as inform you of new developments.

The past three months have been extremely busy for the KORT Team and its supporters, organizing a range of awareness/fundraising events in cities and towns across the length and breadth of the UK. The construction work has begun on the main block of the new educational complex, whilst the leveling of land still continues in earnest.



Artist view of the KORT's New Educational Complex

Recent Visit

The chair and trustees recently visited children at the Hall Road Orphanage in Mirpur, AJK. During the visit they had the opportunity of seeing at first hand, the site of the new education complex at nearby Jarrikas. The experience proved to be enlightening, rewarding and at times emotional.

The children were extremely excited to meet with us and spoke proudly of their educational achievements, sporting endeavors

and personal interests. The majority of the boys said they excelled at team sports such as football, cricket, hockey and badminton, whilst the girls stated they enjoyed playing hockey and badminton. Some of the younger girls said they preferred to play with dolls.

The KORT team, accompanied by all of the children, visited the site of the new education complex for the first time. Words alone could not describe the atmosphere and excitement evident on the childrens faces when they set foot on the site that is to be their home.

At the time of our visit work was underway on leveling the ground, in preparation for phase 1 of the construction. However, away from the heavy machinery, a part of the site was rendered safe for us all to engage in fun activities. The children challenged the trustees to a race up an incline and around the perimeter wall of the site. With pride being at stake, the challenge was reluctantly accepted and of course, we gave them a good run for their money. Even though some of us almost required medical attention! However much fun and laughter was had by all.

During the fun and laughter, one ten year old girl asked a trustee if he had any daughters. The trustee replied, "I don't have any daughters but do have a son". To which the girl promptly responded, "Uncle don't say that, we're all your daughters!" whilst pointing in the direction of other girls around her. This experience was described by the trustee as the defining moment of his visit.

Amidst so much adversity, the children are aspirational in displaying abundant enthusiasm, resolve and optimism for the future. It is their strength of character and optimism that inspires us to continue our efforts to ensure we raise the necessary funds for building and running the new education complex. The children deserve no less than the best and we all have a responsibility to do our bit to achieve this goal.

Update on awareness/fundraising Events

DATE	LOCATION	ORGANISORS
27 April	Leeds	Zhora Mohammed
04 May	Newcastle	Ch.Qurban Hussain
3 June	Harlaxtone	Kevin, Barbara and Friends - raised £700
5 June	Uppingham	Peter, Mary Lloyd & Friends - raised £2200
12 June	Sheffield	Shabir Mughal/Mohammed Ali Aslam Foods sponsored classroom - £3850
15 June	Halifax	Khalid Mahmood
27 June	Birmingham	Haji Sayeed Mughal
30 June	Glasgow	Mohammed Rashid
4 July	Birmingham-Ladies Only	Shehzadi Shah/Tehzeem & Friends - raised over £2300
10 July	Banbury	Cllr. Alyas & Gul Bahar
13 July	Burton on Trent	Jinnah International Badminton Club - raised Over £8000



Awarness Seminar in Halifax



Awareness Seminar in Burton Upon Trent with MP Janet Dean

Due to limited space in this newsletter we are only able to acknowledge the main organisers of the above events. However, we would like to thank everyone for their encouragement, support and hard work in ensuring a huge success of all the events.

Forthcoming Awareness/ Fundraising Events

6 September, 2008 - Kbc Channel 836/837
(Evening Live Appeal)

7 September, 2008 - Dm Digital Channel 802
(Evening Live Appeal)

9 September, 2008 - Radio Ramzaan, Sheffield

13 September, 2008 - Aap Channel 803
(Evening Live Appeal)

Radio Ikhlaas, Derby
(Date & Time To Be Confirmed)

Radio Ramzaan, Burton on Trent.
(Date & Time To Be Confirmed)

Spice FM , Newcastle.
(Evening Live Appeal)

Ways to Help

Whilst KORT achieved a key milestone in securing land at Jarrikas, Mirpur, AJK, for the New Educational Complex, the trustees are now faced with an even bigger challenge... to raise funds for the construction of Phase 1- Main Block.

This challenge offers us all an opportunity to make an everlasting contribution in making the difference to improving the lives of our orphans children.

Please donate generously.

You can donate:

- Sadqa
- Lillah
- Fitrana
- Zakat
- Fidyah



Children of KORT with Eid gifts

We guarantee that 100% of your donations will be used for the education complex welfare and education of the children.

You can donate from a few pounds, to a single payment of £3850 for a room or spread over two years.

- Eid ul Fitr Gift for each child - £25
- Sponsor a child - £35 /month
- Sponsor a room at the New Education Complex - £3850

You can also make a regular donation of any amount, via Direct Debit, for the construction of Mosque, Hospital, development of sports, and other facilities.

Existing Orphanage

Hall Road Centre Refurbishment and creation of Library/IT rooms.

In 2005/6 the building was quickly made habitable to provide shelter, support and schooling for the earthquake orphans. However, whilst the children have been well looked after during this time, the building has experienced significant wear and tear. Shower and washroom amenities were insufficient for the separate girls and boys floors. Thus in recent months, the Centre has undergone a significant refurbishment programme. We have upgraded and increased capacity of bathroom amenities; provided new library and fully equipped computer (IT) suite.

The building is now fit for purpose and should serve the children until relocation to the new complex.

Another Marathon Effort



Clare Moore after finishing her half Marathon

Clare Moore, employee of Croner Consulting, ran the Hinckley running club half marathon to raise funds . We would like to say A BIG thank you to Clare for her efforts in raising money for KORT and a special thanks to the staff and management at Croner Consulting, Hinckley, for their continued support.

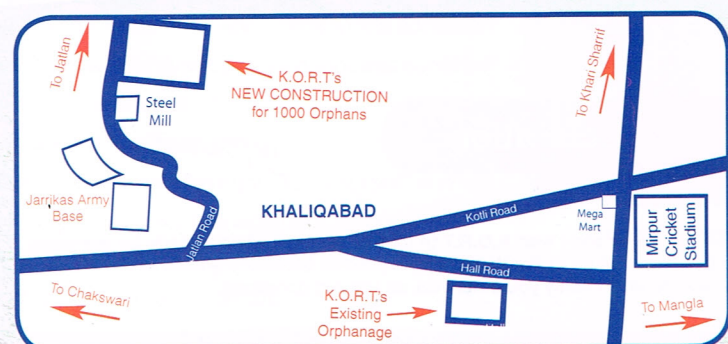
Testimony

"My visit coincided with the recent visit of the trustees to Mirpur. I was pleasantly surprised at the standard of facility, quality of care and education being provided to the children. It did not feel like an 'orphanage'. I was also very impressed by the teachers and other pastoral staff, who seemed very dedicated. I was overwhelmed to see the children smiling and happy just like my own children.

MAQSOOD HUSSAIN Chairman of Pakistani Centre, Uxbridge
Community Centre, Burton on Trent

Orphanage Visits

If you would like to visit our existing orphanage in Mirpur, AJK, meet the children and staff, please contact our UK head office to pre arrange your visit. We recommend that you see and experience at first hand the nature, quality of the education and care being provided.



Area Contacts.

Leicester: Mohammed Akhtar
07866 715 483

Nasar Farooq
07764 454 921

Kaiser Abas
07966 148 678

Derby: Ali Latif
07931 223 616

Burton on Trent: Abdul Waheed
07989 950 220

Banbury: Ashiq Hussain
07956 371 551

Reading: Mubashir Afzal
07788 850 042

Bradford: Sofia Yaqoob
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Rashid Bashir
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+92 58610 37044
+92 30098 67760

For more information about KORT or the project please do not hesitate to contact any of our Trustees

DONATE ONLINE TODAY WWW.KORT.ORG.UK

Your Details

Title: (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____

Your Donation

- Sponsor an Orphan £35.00 per month
- Sponsor a room £3850.00
- Donation for the Mosque
- Donation for the Basic Health Unit (Hospital)
- Donation for Water Facilities
- Donation for Multi-Purpose Hall

Gift Aid Declaration

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I am a UK Tax Payer and I wish K.O.R.T to treat all donations I have made for six years prior to this year, (but no earlier than 6/4/2001) and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Payment Details



I would like to donate:

£ _____

I wish to donate by Visa / Mastercard / Switch / Cheque / Postal Order

Issue No: _____ - _____

Card Number:

_____ - _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Start Date: ____/____/____ Expiry Date: ____/____/____

Last 3 digits (security code) printed on the reverse of the card: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Monthly Donation

Your Bank Details - To The Bank Manager

Name of Account Holder: _____

Name of Bank _____

Address of Bank: _____

Postcode: _____

Account Number: _____

Bank Sort Code: _____

Debit my account each month starting from: _____

£35.00 Other £ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

To the benefit of: Kashmir Orphan Relief Trust
Barclays Bank Plc, Town Hall Square, Leicester, LE1 9BG
Sort Code: 20-49-11 Account Number: 93309231