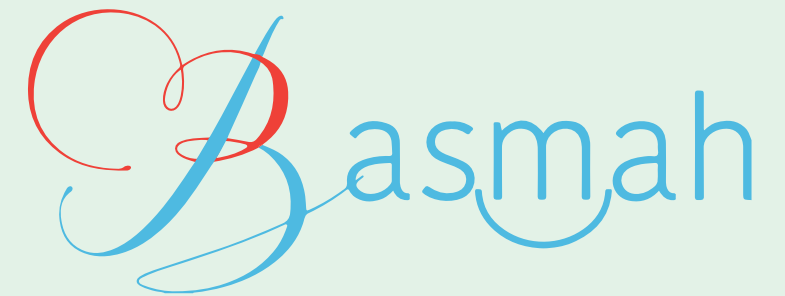


# BASMAH

ACTIVITIES REPORT

# 2019



Bangladesh American Society of Muslim Aidr for Humanity Inc.

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## WHO WE ARE

Basmah (Bangladesh American Society of Muslim Aid for Humanity) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people in Bangladesh. Tax ID # 82-1670588. 501 (c) (3).

This is the philosophy that BASMAH operates under as we empower as many individuals as possible by brightening their lives through better opportunities. Each of these empowered individuals can then brighten the lives of those around them, changing their world. BASMAH is determined to brighten as many lives as possible.

Our sewing program has empowered many individuals to set up small businesses.

Our educational programs have empowered

individuals to take control of their future.

Our humanitarian aid projects have empowered local doctors to take control of their communities.

Our Rohingya refugee program has empowered communities to help people that have been persecuted.

Bringing about change is a challenge. However, with Allah's blessing and your help, we can surmount this challenge together. When we realize the urgency of the situations faced by the individuals whom BASMAH serves, we won't hesitate to take action today. Be the change in aid of the desperate. Help BASMAH empower the people of Bangladesh against all odds.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is to empower people and enable them to help themselves and their communities. Short-term help is great but long-term stability is the goal. Our projects are developed with the hope of long-term growth for communities all over Bangladesh.

## HOW DO WE WORK

BASMAH has partnered with a local Bangladeshi NGO Basmah Foundation which is registered with the NGOAB in Bangladesh and implemented projects in collaboration with them.

# What we did

## CHILDREN CARE & LEARNING CENTER

CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE, AND KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

in Rohingya Refugee Camp, school-going children are more than 145,000. And Nearly 1.3million Rohingya people are living in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Needless to say, the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar's Rakhine State has driven over 1,118,576 Rohingya refugees across the border into Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh in 2017. These refugees include innocent children just like ours, but extremely unjustified cruelty has stolen from them the opportunity to have a bright and educated future, something we wish for our children. We are making an elaborate effort to restore that opportunity for them. Nobody knows when the problem is going to be solved but the future of

the children is uncertain. So, we are educating them about their future. Keeping this in mind, in collaboration with Basmah Foundation (NGO Registration Number: 3160), we established Children Learning 1 at Camp 14, Block E-5 Hakimpura, Ukhiya in Cox's bazaar, Bangladesh which provides a safe place for kids to learn and grow. The center strives to provide them emotional and moral support on top of educational classes five days a week. Every day over 80 students are learning in this Centre. There are 5 to 6 staff members who are teaching them different subjects in Rohingya language like mathematics, religious studies, physical education, and English. We provide free books, free snacks, school uniforms, and bags, etc





# MEDICAL CAMP

## WE HAVE 6 MEDICAL CAMPS THAT ARE GIVEN BELOW

- 1** CAMP 14,  
BLOCK E-5 HAKIMPARA
- 2** CAMP 01, BLOCK 01  
LOMBASHYA, KUTUPALONG
- 3** CAMP 14, BLOCK 18,  
HAKIMPARA
- 4** CAMP NO 13,  
BLOCK NO A-6 THAINGKHALI, BARMAPARA
- 5** CAMP NO 14, BLOCK NO M-13  
HAKIMPARA THAINGKHALI, UKHIYA
- 6** CAMP 13, BLOCK C-35,  
BARMAPARA, THAINGKHALI, UKHIYA

Nearly 1.3million Rohingya people are living in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Fleeing from their own country and hometowns to a foreign nation the Rohingya Refugees have no way to receive medical attention. Furthermore, they had very limited access to health care in Myanmar, and the majority did not receive routine vaccinations. The lack of hygienic and sanitary quality in addition to their living conditions greatly increases the probability of disease outbreaks like cholera, diphtheria, which can prove to be deadly to thousands of lives. As a result, the Rohingya people are vulnerable to possibly preventable diseases and it is up to us to make that possible difference.

In collaboration with Basmah Foundation (NGO Reg Number 3160), we established Medical Camp 1 at Camp 14, Block E-5 Hakimpara, Ukhiya, Cox's bazaar, Bangladesh. Every week more than 750 patients are being treated in the medical camps overlooked by 6 to 10 staff members and volunteers. All patients are provided with primary medical care, medicines, urgent care, distributing medicines, health advice, and so on.





# BLANKET DISTRIBUTION

## TO MAKE WARM THE POOR IN WINTER

The Rohingya people left everything behind and came to Bangladesh with nothing except the clothes on their backs and thus it is a common sight to see children wear worn down clothing that barely serves the purpose. They cannot experience anything close to the comfort we feel in our homes because they have a hard floor for a bed, flimsy plastic for sheets and rags as blankets. We can never imagine a life like that for ourselves and our families, yet this is their everyday life. No comfort of a heater or air conditioning. They live solely in the mercy of nature.

Thus, when January and February, which are the coldest months of Bangladesh arrive, they have no protection from the relentless cold. With night-time temperatures falling as low as 50 degrees Fahrenheit (10°C) and no proper shelter, warm clothes or fuel for

heating, these helpless refugee families can only hope for us to help. We have been making an effort to assist with their urgent need of clothes and blankets to keep themselves and their families warm which is only possible due to your generosity.

In collaboration with BASMAH FOUNDATION we have distributed more than 10000 blankets to Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi Locals in the winter of 2019-2020.

The camps where blankets are distributed is Camp 14, Block E-5 Hakimpara, Ukhiya, Camp 01, Block 01 Lombashya, Kutupalong, Camp 24, Block A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I Mouchony, Teknaf and Camp 27, Block A and D, Shalbagan, Teknaf, Cox's bazaar, Bangladesh. Blankets are also distributed at different locations in Bangladesh where it is needed the most.





# DISASTER RELIEF

## TO HELP THE FARMERS

Bangladesh is a country prone to natural calamity with disasters like floods and tornadoes being prevalent. Up to 3 million people are affected by devastating floods every year. Losing everything they have and falling vulnerable to illnesses these defenseless victims have no one to turn to.

A report as recent as 27 July, 2019 stated that 28 districts have been flooded in the month of July alone. To provide a helping hand to atleast some of these people in need, our partnering organization Basmah Foundation has provided emergency flood relief to the victims of Gaibandha district in North Bengal for 5 days straight. Including necessities like healthy food and clean water Basmah foundation has distributed provisions to countless families and made a huge difference in these five days. However, this is not the end.

More than 500 acres of harvest have been washed away by the rampant waters stripping local farmers of all their hope and hard work. To become a beacon of hope for these farmers and bring back their purpose of life, together with Basmah foundation we have embarked on a project that will distribute nut seeds and provide necessary cultivation aid to more than 600 farmers affected in Shushua char, Bhuapur, Tangail district in Bangladesh. By sponsoring this project, we are also making a huge improvement in the area as the cultivation leads to new harvests. To do this, we need your assistance. Your generosity can make it possible for us to bring back happiness and fulfillment in the lives of these flood affected people.





# STANDING TOGETHER FOR CLEAN WATER

## TO HELP DRINK PURE WATER

More than 1 million Rohingya refugees live across 36 different locations in Cox's Bazar area, in south-eastern Bangladesh. It is very challenging to acquire secure water sources for this massive population due to scarcity and overpopulation. These refugees fled to Bangladesh with nowhere else to go and now they are facing this problem.

In all our facilities located within the Rohingya camps, including the learning centers and medical camps, we have been able to dig bore wells and provide clean and sanitized water thanks to your generosity. Water supplies are a major issue for impoverished families. In this part of Bangladesh, we experience a water crisis during the dry season – from end of

November through April or May. To assure a stable source of clean water we are maintaining these wells to the best of our ability with the help of Basmah foundation.

The process to dig tube well is labor intensive and requires survey and planning. Alhamdulillah, with excellent efforts by Basmah Foundation team we have installed over 20 tube wells where required.

Our partner organization Basmah Foundation have also dug bore wells at various locations in Refugee camps and at other Bangladesh local areas where it was needed the most.





# RAMADAN IFTAR PROJECT

## BASMAH DISTRIBUTED IFTAR TO 50,000 ROHINGYA FAMILIES AND LOCAL BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY IN RAMADAN 2019

In this Ramadan 2019 atleast 370,000 Rohingya children have experienced their second Ramadan and Eid-UI-Fitr away from their original hometowns. In this festive month associated with happiness and fulfillment, they were in hot, flimsy huts made of bamboo and plastic after fleeing horrific violence and cruelty in their own country, Myanmar. With survival being the only priority after witnessing extreme violence and injustice, these children and families could not even imagine festivities being a part of their lives again.

Since 2018, BASMAH has provided Ramadan food baskets to the impoverished Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi Locals in an attempt to shed some light into these dark times for them. Thousands of families have benefited from your generosity in this annual campaign

Once again this year, BASMAH USA partnered with Basmah foundation to make an effort towards this noble cause. BASMAH has employed people to cook fresh and nutri-

tious Iftar meals prepared from scratch including juice, dates, salads, a main course, bread, pastries, and fruits. These meals were delivered to the Rohingya refugee population and their neighboring local communities in and around the refugee camps. These meals were received with dignity, a smile, and countless prayers for everyone who made this possible.

Each family were given \$130 basic provisions which lasted them the month of Ramadan. A total of 40,000 families have received iftar provisions in 2019, all of it as a result of your kindness.





# QURBANI PROJECT 2018 & 2019

EID FOR EVERYONE; SHARING IS CARING

Struggling families in Bangladesh can't have meat but only a few times a year. Many of them only consume meat in the days after Eid-ul-Adha or not at all. This means tens of thousands of individuals go without the proper nutrition and diet that we tend to take for granted today. Our organization reaches out to these families by giving them free portions of meat to feed their entire family.

Meat is even harder to come by for the Rohingya refugees in the camps at Cox's Bazar. Nutritious food is scarce in the camps and without our help many of these families will continue to be malnourished. Basmah is your link to these people in dire need of your gift of meat.

Through a \$875 donation, a bull can be shared across up to 100 families. Our meat is 100% halal certified and locally sourced, providing the lawful and best quality meat for these families.

Qurbani requirements state that 1/7th parts of a bull or cow is necessary for Eid ul Adha donations.

Volunteers from our partner organization Basmah Foundation (Government of Bangladesh NGO Affairs Bureau Registration Number – 3160) helped in running operations of this project in year 2019. This project and all services offered is approved by Government of Bangladesh.

This year, Alhamdulillah, BASMAH USA sacrificed 47 cows and distributed the meat across 2500 families in the Rohingya Refugee Camp and local host community. We are grateful for your support. It makes us want to work harder everyday.





# THE SEWING MACHINE PROJECT

## TO EMPOWER WOMEN

Poverty and unemployment has been devastating many households in Bangladesh. At the mercy of this poverty lies women who are the heads of their households. Facing unjustified discrimination and little to no opportunity for progression in careers women are challenged in the workplace to earn enough for their families. However, if provided a small amount of money and equipment these women can take the initiative to run their own small businesses and eventually have an easier time taking care of their families. Bangladesh has a large textile industry which is why stitching garments is a very valued and needed job. By training the women in need and providing them with sewing machines we can empower them to support themselves.

In collaboration with Basmah Foundation we have set up a sewing machine distribution program for women in need in Bangladesh. Basmah Foundation provides them with sewing machines and assists them with obtaining the skills needed to get a small business started in their household. We provide training at our sewing machine training center 1 at

Kaliganj, Lalmonirhat, Bangladesh. We believe this dual pronged approach, providing free sewing machines as well as three months of training will help them to create a stable income for their families. In the past year alone, more than 155 families have already benefited from this program and many more are enrolled for this year as well.

This sewing machine center serves as a double blessing. It creates an employment opportunity for women in Bangladesh and we can use the garments manufactured for free distribution in the Rohingya refugee camps.







## FREE SANITARY NAPKIN FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY

## WOMEN ARE SAFE MEANS THE NEXT GENERATION IS SAFE

Bangladesh is a developing country. Sanitary napkin is not available in rural areas in Bangladesh that's a matter of shocking. According to the national report, more than 85% of women in Bangladesh do not use a sanitary napkin during the period. 80% percent of them use unhygienic cloths only. And still in rural areas of Bangladesh many prejudices exist where media can't reach to make them aware. In many parts of the country especially in rural areas, girls are not prepared and aware of menstruation so they face many difficulties and challenges at home, schools, and workplaces. Basmah is a non-governmental charity organization and Basmah intends to work raising awareness for good health and to aware women of using sanitary napkin because it's very important for the mother.

Lacking knowledge about remaining safe during menstruation is a big concern and women feel side glance almost everywhere in our country. So, Basmah planned to work for the sake of the mother's health and to develop our society's outlook. Women have developed their strategies to handle this time. Some are hygienic but most of the things are not. Because of unhygienic strategies, it causes cancer even. Menstruation and menstrual practices still face many social, cultural, and religious restrictions which are a big barrier in the path of the menstrual hygiene management. "In school, I felt shame to tell someone about my Menstruation. And it was started during class time. the horrible experience happened in my life that day. And I came to know teenage girls feel shame to tell someone about

this, even they hide this matter to their parents." Said by Farhana. According to the Bangladesh National Hygiene Baseline Survey, conducted in 2014, only 14% of women and girls currently using sanitary napkins during menstruation. In Rohingya camp, we guess, it has become a dangerous situation because they are fighting for their lives and they can't afford necessary cloths let alone sanitary napkins. We will arrange a campaign to develop society's thoughts at different points like in garments, schools & other important places in Bangladesh by Basmah's medical team & volunteers. And we will engage the authority of that area to cooperate us and the head or any agent of them will give awareness speech and we will provide a packet of sanitary napkins for 3months affordable free of cost and an awareness leaflet. And our elementary target to reach out to 120000 women. And for following up, we will collect data of the beneficiaries and they will be given our expertise's number too so that they can get help from our expertise in this arena and also, they will be followed up by our expertise if the beneficiaries use napkins properly. The expertise will help them out if necessary. And we can arrange a mobile camp. And of course, necessary steps will be taken immediately if necessary.

BASMAH USA also intends to work through its partner in the host community particularly with women and adolescents for the same purpose. In the host community, this project will target a total of 12000 vulnerable women by giving free sanitary napkins.

In 2020, BASMAH has held awareness and sanitary napkin distribution programs in Panam G R Institution School, Sonargaon Taherpur Lalmatia School & Alia Madrasa, Sonargaon Kazi Fazlul Huq Women's College, and distributed napkins among poor women in many villages in the Sonargaon in Narayangonj area.



## OUR CURRENT PROJECT IN 2020

### COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE FOR BANGLADESHI PEOPLE:

Basmah has distributed protective equipment- PPE to the Home Ministry and Police Department, Government Upazilla Health Authorities who are at the front-line in providing service to the people. Basmah has also distributed masks, gloves, soaps, sanitizers to the needy people. Basmah has distributed the much needed food aid to hundreds of thousands of people in many areas in Dhaka, Narayangonj, Sylhet districts who are badly hit hard by the crisis.



## MEDICAL CENTER IN ROHINGYA CAMP

Basmah has established the 7th medical center inside the Rohingya camp which is providing emergency medical service, urgent medical attention, free medicines & health advice, coronavirus awareness and aleters. Every week over 500 patients are being treated in the medical center by the Basmah medical team who are providing critical service during the Covid-19 crisis by risking their own lives.



## RAMADAN IFTAR 2020

To help poor and needy people with Iftar meals in Ramadan, Basmah has distributed iftar meals to about 100,000 people in the Teknaf area.





# TANK YOU



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