

Salamati – (Peace, Safety & Security)

Let's Share Kindness, Help the Needy, Educate Children



20th April 2020

Dear Graeme,

Zoofi, Shamik and I would like to thank you and your congregation for your generous donations of clothing and stationery items towards our “Salamati” charity initiative. This small charity initiative was started by Zoofi and I in memory of my mother after she passed away in 2015. Our aim is to promote education amongst the poor communities of Pakistani Christians and help and uplift the needy.

Some people make choices that change lives. Thank you for being one of them. Your donation will help change the lives of students and their family members today, tomorrow and for years to come. Thank you for your help and support.

The generous donations of items of used clothing and stationery we received from your church and from other churches and individual were sent to Pakistan in November 2019 before we left for Pakistan in December 2019, in the hope that it will get their while we would be in Pakistan, but due to Christmas, the packages arrived two weeks after our return to the UK, and after that came the outbreak of the corona virus. Hence, we have decided with our partners Heaven’s Love Ministry, Lahore to distribute these near Christmas time 2020, hoping that things will be much better by then.

We were disappointed that we were not able to distribute the donations to the poor families ourselves, but our visit has been very useful as we were able to visit different areas of intense poverty, see for ourselves the conditions these people were living in, be with them and support them pastorally.

There were some individuals who made some donations towards our charity initiative and their tremendous support and generous donations enabled us to pay monthly fee of 10 children of Al Huda Pre Cadet School and Academy, Waseem Park, Lahore. The school is in the very poor neighbourhood of Lahore. This school was recommended to us by the local church, St. Peters United Presbyterian, Church of Pakistan, Waseem Park Lahore.

Our initial thoughts were to buy notebooks, course books and stationery items for poor children and distribute them in, at least three different areas in Lahore. But when we surveyed different areas and came to this school which is a Christian school run by a committed Christian woman Mrs. Ruth Mushtaq, in the midst of a thickly populated Muslim community, we were impressed by the Christian teaching, when we visited the school, given to all students regardless of their religion, for which the school has seen withdrawal of Muslim students from the school and much opposition. But the Christian witness continues.

It is this commitment to education and Christian teaching that we thought was so brave, bold and impressive that we decided to sponsor 10 children for a year and also committed to pay the rent of the school building for 1 month and the salaries of the staff for 1 month as well. The rent and salaries were not in our initial plan, but a special request has been made to us in the present circumstances of the corona virus and we thought we ought to honour it.

The total cost of sponsoring 10 children for the tuition fee for one year is £600 (approximately £50/year/child or £5.00/month/child)
Rent of the school building for 1 month is £130 and
Staff salaries for 1 month is £230 (5 teachers £46/month per teacher)

We hope to continue to pay the fees of the 10 children for another year 2021. The parents of the children we are sponsoring are either labourers or sanitation workers. During our visit we were able to meet the parents (mainly mothers) and tell them the good news, I wish I could capture the gratitude they had on their faces after hearing the news, as it took a lot of financial pressure off them and the hope it gave them, and show it to you.

And so, Zoofi, Shamik and I wish to thank you for your support. Our hope is that through our efforts these children will have the opportunity to change the future of their families and their nation.

We can't make a difference to everyone's life, but we can make a difference to the lives of these 10 children and to the lives of those who will receive the donations. One of the mums said, "I wish we had this opportunity; I wouldn't be a labourer and I don't want my son to be one."

Our aim is to give these children free education so they can have a bright future, and help these poor families in more tangible ways so that they can see the love of Christ shared with them, So thank you for your kind support in helping us achieve this goal. We would like to thank you and the members of your church for collecting donations of used clothing and stationery. These are very much appreciated. Hopefully when these have been distributed in or around December, I will provide a detailed report to the church.

Thank you once again.

Every blessing,
Isaac, Zoofi and Shamik Lawrence

List of Names and details of sponsored children.

Sr. No	Student's First Name	Father's Name	D.O.B	Father's Profession	Class
1	Carol	Johnson	5/5/2015	Labour	Nursery
2	Ryman	Johnson	5/7/2014	Labour	Nursery
3	Angel	Mohsin	10/4/2015	Labour	Nursery
4	Aren	Irfan	26/9/2012	Carpenter	Two
5	Arvan	Irfan	26/9/2012	Carpenter	Two
6	Sameer	Kamran		Barber	Prep
7	Anze	Nadeem	10/6/2015	Labour	Nursery
8	Angel	Khuram	21/3/2014	Driver	Three
9	Alish	Samsoon	25/5/2014	Carpenter	Nursery
10	Ifraeem	Yousaf	6/7/2011	Gardner	Prep

Pictures from our visit to Pakistan

The school - Al Huda Pre Cadet School and Academy



From Left to right –
 Mrs Ruth Mushtaq – Principal
 Rev Mushtaq Raza – Priest In charge St. Peter U.P – CoP – Lahore
 Shamik Lawrence
 Zoofi Lawrence
 Mrs Alva Javed Bhatti – Founder Heavens Love Ministries
 The teacher of the class



Mrs. Alva Javed Bhatti, Rev Isaac Lawrence and Mr Hermond Javed Bhatti (Co - founder Heavens Love ministry)

Presenting the first instalment to the Principal Mrs. Ruth (on the left)

Pictures of the Vicinity and Across the Road from the School Building



The Local Church – St. Peters U.P church



More Pictures of the area where the school and the Church is located



The Church Gate Plot next to church used as dumping ground.



The road on which the church is located



Of all the photographs I have taken, this is my favourite!

Please continue to pray for this work. Thanks for all your support.