



Report

PHASE III

29th – 31st August 2010

By: Khaqan Sikander & Hammad Qureshi

Upon arriving at *Quetta* Airport on the 29th of August, we headed off to Quetta Cantt where we were scheduled to stay for the next 2 days. Our first priority was to gather as much information as we could of the areas that needed immediate attention, as well as a survey report of people effected by the flood in those areas. In order to do so, we requested survey report of the region of Sibbi. We chose Sibbi as our distribution point, as many of the flood victims from Jaafarabad, Jacobabad, Naseerabad and Jhat Pat had come over to Sibbi where huge camps have been set up by the Army and UNICEF.

30th Aug, Sibbi, Balochistan; *a city situated between Quetta and Jacobabad.* We had picked 250 families, that had so far not received any aid from any local or foreign NGOs as they were traveling out of the flooded regions while the distributions were going on, and at the moment were temporarily putting up at different locations such as the Sibbi High School, Sibbi Hospital, Sibbi Railway Station etc., until they were allotted a residence by the local Govt. – we had identified these families with the assistance of Muslim Aid and the DCO of that area; Total contribution worth **PKR 522,135/-**.

Excluding other miscellaneous costs, ration packet costs and contents are as follows:

Sr.#	Particulars	Qty	Unit Rate	Total
1	Atta	10 Kg	34/-	340/-
2	Cooking Oil(Meezan)	2.5 Lits	140/-	350/-
3	Daal Channa	2 Kg	92.5/-	185/-
4	Rice (Super)	5 Kg	85/-	425/-
5	Masala Mix	0.5 Kg	220/-	110/-
6	Dates (Fresh)	1 Kg	100/-	100/-
7	Jerry Can	10 Lits	320/-	320/-
8	Packing Charges	1 Nos	25/-	25/-
TRANSPORTATION from Quetta to Sibi is approximated Rs. 30,000 (i.e Rs. 120/Package)				

As a courtesy of the Pak Army senior ranks, we were given a safe passage from Quetta to Sibbi under the security of the Pakistan Army, who had its own convoy headed towards the area. It is well known that in Balochistan, the situation is quite hostile and often aid trucks are raided and looted by local rebels.



With Major Noman, the convoy commander Convoy in motion



Our aid trucks along with Army

Sibbi railway station



Affectees inside Railway station



Encampment along roadside in Sibbi



Mere Log – Local volunteers



Survey sheet



Queue of affectees outside



NIC verification



Further verification



Thumb prints upon receipt



Thumb prints upon receipt



Distribution of relief packets

Note: Several instances of our activity that might not be shown in the above pictures will be covered in our upcoming documentary that we are currently editing. This report has been released preliminarily on the request of our donors since the movie editing is going to require some time. Also, please pardon us for any shortcomings in the report as we're too busy organizing our third field trip during the last weekend of Sept 2010 (around Eid ul Fitr).

Personal perspectives:

It is also our objective through this report to convey to our donors the personal perspective of the relief operations carried out in the field for there is a human element in any disaster situation that precedes any statistics. It takes one where no number can take.

The situation in Baluchistan is not only precarious but dangerous. Anti Pakistan and Anti army sentiment is high especially after the Dera Bugti operation by former President Musharraf.

Even the situation in Quetta city is quite tense. The city is evidently segregated between Quetta cant, which is resided mostly by army and its related personnel and the outer city wherein resides the local general public at large ranging from mainly the Pashtuns, Balochs, Azaraas to name a few. There has been a heavy out flux of Punjabis out of Baluchistan due to the worsening security situation and targeted killings. The business center or the economy however is mainly controlled by the Pashtuns who are also benefiting from this outward migration of Punjabis whereby they acquire land and businesses on sale.

The Baloch Population can be divided up into two segments, the educated class and the pre literates. Most educated families are either engaged with government jobs with very few owning businesses. The bigger uneducated segment is in rural Balochistan and end up joining different tribe and party armed factions.

We held various discussion groups with the Army as well as the Locals and found that they seem to be stuck in this vicious cycle of violence and mistrust due to the lack of political will to address the Balochi people's concerns.

In the aftermath of floods, along with various NGO's on ground, Army is readily working (so far without any incidents) in the affected areas and is helping thousands of Baloch affectees regardless of the security situation.

The situation is very drastic, as most of attention is being given to Sindh, KPK and Punjab, Balochistan is again feeling left out. What we witness on ground was beyond any words. One of our drivers told us the following story which does it justice to some extent.

“Upon driving towards Jaffarbad region, a young lady came onto the road and laid flat on the road in front of the van we were traveling in, and thus we stopped the car. Upon inquiry, pointing towards her 3 infant children on the road side, she painfully pleaded, either kill me and my children or help us. The children looked severely dehydrated and on the brink of death. God knows, they had gone how many days without food or water. We were overwhelmed with emotion; we helped as much as we could and moved on with a heavy heart”

Future plans:

Apart from the above activity which we had planned in advance, we have been informed by the Pakistan Army officials heading the relief operations in Balochistan, that there is dire need of installing one or more than one water filtration plants in areas like Dera Murad Jamali, where a magnificent camp has been set up by the Pak Army. Soon we shall be receiving detailed information in that regard, and hopefully we will have the honor to donate the Water Filtration plant. Currently we're working on its feasibility report.