

KASHMIR CHARITABLE TRUST (UK)

JOIN YOUR OWN AND WORK FOR YOUR OWN

PROGRESS REPORT



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Organizational Structure in UK

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
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| 2. Assistant national coordinator | Asad Hassan Zia |
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Regional Concern Person

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|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Regional Coordinator | Aamir Khawaja |
|-------------------------|---------------|

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

KCT	Kashmir Charitable Trust
AJK	State of Azad Jammu & Kashmir
UK	United Kingdom
JK	Jammu & Kashmir
MZD	Muzaffarabad
AK	Azad Kashmir
KRRC	Kashmir Record & Research Council
CR	Community Representative
SM	Social Mobilization
CBO	Community Based Organization
AIMS	Al abbas Institute of Medical Sciences

1. General

KCT is **UK** based **Organization** and its Registered Charity Number is **1053171**. **KCT** is a voluntary **Organization** striving to assist people of **Kashmir**. **KCT** was founded in **1996**. It has contributed funds to **Organizations** and individuals on all sides of the divide. In the recent months some changes have taken place to bring normality in the day to day of ordinary people. However, there are still those people who have been struggling for better life. People of **JK** are peace loving nation who have been affected by the decades old turmoil in control, which divides **Kashmir** have been going through some torrid time. There is no family in these areas that have not been affected by the decades old turmoil in the country. Members of **KCT** over the years have been endeavoring to assist as many ongoing projects as possible through other **Charitable Organizations**, working in **JK**. However, there is lot of more work that can be carried out with increased man-power and financial resources. People living in **UK**, particularly **Kashmiri people** have contributed well in making some of the projects successful.

KCT is working under the slogan of “**Join your own and work for your own**”. The slogan shows that the involvement of local community is basic motto of the Organization. After the huge and most devastated earthquake of the region members of **KCT (UK)** decided to start rehabilitation work in their native country.

The registered office of the **Organization** is in **UK**. The address for correspondence is:

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The aim of the Organization is

1. To relieve the inhabitants and the origins(living elsewhere) of the **AJK** who are in condition of need, hardship or distress as a result of local, internal or external conflict or by reason of their social and economic circumstances.
2. To provide relief in the shape of essentials and every day needs including food and clothing.
3. To provide relief and temporary shelter to the people who do not have any source of income and are made homeless.
4. To provide medical relief in the form of medicine and necessary equipment.
5. To assist in providing and helping to maintain regular basic education to the children who are under 16 and are either made orphans or are poor.
6. To help people of the area and living elsewhere to lead a normal, healthy and prosperous family life.
7. To provide and facilitate awareness and promotion on practical, professional and environmental development of individuals involved in the Organization where possible. Such that the Organization benefits from established member of the society in profession and business.

- **Definition of the Area and its Beneficiaries**

The area of the beneficiary is the **JK** which is situated on the extreme **North** of **Indo-Pakistan subcontinent** and surrounded by **India, Pakistan, China** and **Afghanistan**. The people living in this area and the ones who have originated (but living abroad) from this area will be the direct beneficiaries, in particular those people living on both sides of the line of control.

- **Situation of affected area**

The sounds preceding an earthquake can be as terrifying as the event itself, particularly when they come to the ears of people dazed with sleep. Sometime there is a boom like distant gunfire, or a sharp, snapping sound. There may be a rumbling noise like heavy traffic moving over cobbled streets. As they mover forward, shock waves oscillate with a pull –and-push motion while others called ‘strike waves’ oscillate with a throwing off impulses at right angles. The total effect is like a cold of earth being shaken in a sieve.

On the fateful morning of **8th Oct 2005** the mountainous region of **AJK** and the parts of **Pakistan frontier province** were hit by the worst earthquake in the history of this region. The intensity of this quake was such that it cause mountain to crumbled and slide out into the river **Jhelum** and **Neelum** taking hundreds of villages and many thousands of their inhabitants with them. The epicenter of this quake was just over **11 miles** away from **Mzd** the capital of **AK** near village called **Panjgiran**. People from villages further over from **Panjgiran** who traveled through it on there way to **Mzd** said that there is no one left to moan among the dead of **Panjgiran** and the surrounding areas. The tremulous were felt on both sides to **Kashmiri** divide as well as **Indian** province of **Punjab** and **Pakistan** provinces of **Punjab** and **Sarhad** and the **Afghan** province **Nigar**. more than **70 % Mzd** city has been reduced to rubble and it is thought that the death toll in **Mzd** alone could exceed **50 thousand** there has also been amount of destructions and deaths in the other areas of **Azad Kashmir** particularly in the areas of **Jhelum** and **Neelum** valleys districts of **AK (Bagh** and **Poonch** including **Rawalakot**) and many small towns and villages. its is evident from initial assessments that virtually all the government buildings including hospitals, school colleges and universities crumbled with the first trimmer resulting in instant death of thousand of children and young people state employees and hospital patients.

The towns of **Uri** and **Kupwara** and surrounding villages in the **Indian administrated Kashmir** so 90% of this area devastated and much life lost. even the official statistic tend to be quite conservative that the death toll in **Kashmir** alone is well over **50,000** towns of **Balakot** **Battagram** **Mansehra** and **Kaghan** in **Pakistan North West Frontier** who hit equally badly by the earth quake causing a lot of destruction and thousand of deaths in these areas too. According to united nation statistics around 4 million people have been affected and two million of those are now homeless.

The 8th October’s Earthquake measuring **7.6** on the Richter scale struck South Asia, affecting **3.5 million** people: **73,000** people were killed, **79,000** were injured and disabled and **2.8 million** were left without shelter, assets and livelihoods. In North-West Frontier Province, the earthquake damaged 84 percent of homes, hospitals, schools and other infrastructures; in **Pakistan** Administered Kashmir this figure was **40** percent. More than **27, 00** villages were affected in an area of **30, 000 square km**. livestock and significant crop losses of between **40** percent and **75** percent. Aftershocks and landslides severed rural roads, forcing **250,000** people in to tented camps and stranding **745,000** people in mountainous terrain where they remained dependent on airlifts for food, shelter and medicine.

The impact on health and education was devastating: **18,000** schoolchildren and **853** teachers lost their lives; **574** health facilities and **4,844** schools were destroyed. Over **955,000** school-age children had their education disrupted; **450,000** children aged **5-9** require immediate access to primary education.

There was significant destabilization of land and environmental damage. Landslides reduced tree cover; further slides and deforestation are expected from February to July **2006** as a result of harsh weather and increased demand for fuel wood and reconstruction material. Between **50** percent and **100** percent of irrigation structures and community water systems were damaged or buried; natural springs dried up as a result of seismic shifts. Terraces and retaining walls require significant rehabilitation.

After the huge disaster, some changes have taken place to bring normality in the day to day life of ordinary people. However, there are still those people who have been struggling for better life. People of Jammu & Kashmir are peace loving nation. People living in the beautiful Valley of Kashmir, and those people living on the sides of Lin of Control, which divides Kashmir have been going through some torrid time. After **8th October's** earthquake the member of **KCT**, decided to start work with their partner Organization (**KRRC**) for accommodating the affective people. **KCT** team reached on **17th of October 2005** at **Mzd**. They establish their main Office in **Jalalabad** and arranged meetings with CRs for managing the relief work properly.

The rescue relief and restoration activities put an upbeat impact on the process of **SM** program of the project. In this regard a number of meetings were conducted with the members of community members of evacuation of critically injured people, rescue, and food distribution, provision of temporary shelters and provision guidance for coordination with other organization came for the purpose. Here are the detail of the work of **KCT** team in **Mzd** and affected areas.

Social Mobilization

Meeting with the CRs

As most of the community representatives were busy either in solving their own family problems or helping the affected people of their community, the number of meetings conducted with them are no considerable, however, some community members could be contacted who were either stuck up in **Mzd**, or came seeking relief. In such an environment of chaos and devastation where the prime need of the people is rescue, relief and food, the **KCT** team instead of contacting community representatives, work hard to contact the rescue and relief **Organizations**. The meeting conducted with the **CR's** regarding seeding guidance and identifying the areas that were most affected. During these meetings full attention was giving to the youth of the disaster area. The necessary training was given to the young leaders, that how they can collect data and how they can mange the relief work in the disaster areas.



Meeting with the members of Jalalabad CBO

After reaching the team of **KCT** at **Mzd**, they immediately called upon all the community motivators and community watchers for a meeting so that a strategy may be formulated for the rescue and relief of the affected people. First of all they established **KCT** main office in **Jalalabad**. In this meeting following participants took part.

1. **Mr. Dr. Mohsin Shakil (Member board of Directors KCT)**
2. **Mr. Asad Butt**
3. **Mr. Adeel (KCT Volunteer)**
4. **Mr. Talat Butt (UK region Coordinator KCT)**
5. **Mr. Toufique Gresta (Acting Chairman KRRC)**
6. **Mr. Mustehsan Mir (KCT Finance Department)**
7. **Mr. Aamir Wani (KCT volunteer)**

The following decisions were taken:

1. The medical camp will start in **AMIS** under the supervision of **Mr. Dr. Mohsin Shakil**.
2. **Mr. Nadeem** the community watcher was assigned the responsibility of keeping the patients in a well discipline order so that they may be treated on priority basis.
3. A volunteer **Mr. Qaiser** was given the duty of sorting and handing over the medicines to the patients according to the prescription of doctors.
4. The main Office for **Kashmir Charitable Trust** will establish in **Gharista House**.

Meeting with the member of Taraqaabad CBO

Meeting with the Community Representatives of **Taraqaabad** held at **Mr. Nazir Awan's** house on **21st of October 2005**. The purpose of the meeting was to encourage the youth to work with their own hands for the betterment of their country.

The decisions made as a result of the meeting were as follows:

- **KCT** will establish a sub office at **Taraqaabad** for the purpose of storage of food and medical items, for the community those who are living in **Taraqaabad**.
- The Coordinator of **UK** region **Talat But** will train the youth for collecting data of effected areas.
- **Nazir Awan** (Community Representative) will also provide volunteers for Medical camp.

Meeting with the member of Centre Plate Community Representatives

Another meeting was conducted with the community Representative **Aamir Khawaja** on 21 November 2005 at Centre Plate. **Abid Hashmi** (Secretary General) was also present in that meeting. The aim of that meeting was to encourage the youth of Local area for rehabilitation of their country.

During meeting following decisions were made.

- The youth of Centre Plate will start a project with the name of Kasamira Relief Committee under the banner of KCT.
- This Committee will help the people for taking out the dead bodies from debris.
- The youth will train by the Social Mobilizer of KCT UK (Region) for collecting data.
- The committee (Kasamira Relief Committee) will also start rubble removing campaign.

After the huge disaster KCT established many short term and long term projects in effective areas. The detail of the projects is as written bellow.

IMMEDIATE RELIEF

Phase I of Immediate Relief

A Camp was established to accommodate the people reaching Mirpur, initially accommodating in a camp (Phase I of Immediate Relief) after two months. A committee from the effectives for camp management was established. The training about camp management was also provided to the committee. The total numbers of beneficiaries were 31 families with 200 members. **In**

Phase II these families were shifted in rented houses and they stayed at rented houses until the life become normal. The children were started going to school within five days after reaching Mirpur. Yasin Malik who came from Sarinagar also visited this camp to express solidarity from the people of Jammu Kashmir. In emergency phase the local community from Mirpur also participates for accommodating their countrymen. The example of brotherhood like that couldn't find in anywhere.



Evaluation of the Situation

The South Asia earthquake of **8 October 2005** devastated the lives of **3.5 million** people. Thousands were injured and disabled; survivors lost their livelihoods and were left traumatized and homeless. Majority of schools were destroyed, disrupting education for an entire generation. Thousands of people stranded in mountain valleys or forced in to temporary camps will need to rebuild their homes and to restore their livelihoods.

This huge disaster changes the situation of the Kashmiri territory and also the style of the community. **KCT** decided to capture this miserable condition of the people for future references.

36 hours of video recording hundreds of photographs, hours of interviews with victims, survivors, govt. officials, politicians and rescue workers were performed to record the disaster for making historical record. **Talat Butt** from **KCT** was the project manager of this project. Three photo exhibitions to revive the cultural life of disaster area were also arranged.



National Reconstruction Volunteers Programme

Full attention was given to the youth of disaster area for enabling them to perform their role in management of disaster. Volunteer were recruited to perform different rescue and relief task, they were trained to conduct survey, assist in provision of medical treatment, to control and extinguish fire in camps. Training was also conducted to make them deal with the situation effectively. The objectives of that Training were to enable the youth for a role in reconstruction and rehabilitation process. The performance of the volunteers were remarkable, their involvement in program made them active survivor instead of a hopeless victims. Their role in conducting survey, establishing distribution network, identification of needy and providing them the help they required is appreciable.



Data Collection and development of Data Base

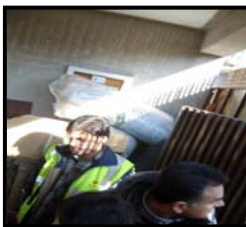
The data was collected by the volunteers to assess the situation. Few clusters of urban and rural population were selected and survey was completed and kept for future reference. Project data base was started with collaboration of **Govt. of Azad Kashmir** for which technical assistance was provided by **KCT**. This project was founded by Kashmir Youth Project



Establishment of KCT delivery system

By involving the local community as volunteer with the help of **KCT** workers, delivery system of **KCT** was developed in the city of Muzaffarabad with objective to encourage and facilitate other NGO to use this system for delivery of relief goods. "**Burley for Kashmir**" provided van for this project.

1. **Lower Plate**: Distribution of about **300 tents**, food items for **120 families**, Eid Meat for **200 families** and warm clothing were also distributed to these families.
2. Tariqabad: Delivery system with storage capacity was developed by a local volunteer under the banner of **KCT**.



Computer Literacy Centre

According to the opinion of potential beneficiaries Computer studies is the manly important training and need of at hand generation. **KRRC** and **KCT** started this project at **9th of May 2006**. The aim of this project is to provide professional skills and training needed to enable, unemployment youth of Kashmir to find suitable work. On the opening ceremony of the **CLC**, **25 guests** were invited from different **NGO's**. Aim of this ceremony to make good relation with other organizations. All the participants admired the style of **KCT's** work. The six months progress of this centre shows that the projects like this can change the professional literacy rate in effective areas. Until now 127 students have taken their education from this centre. This centre is also providing free education for needy and poor students. **KCT** also wants to establish a female literacy centre in **Mzd**.



Embroidery Centre

Kashmir has been very famous for many centuries for his beautiful handicrafts. Female embroidery is also a part of this art. In Kashmir Embroidery (Guba Sazi and Shaal Making) is also specialty. Embroidery is so much a part of our lives that we may not even notice it. However a shirt features fancy stitching; when a Tea cap has stitched a logo, embroidery is the cause. This kind of stitching made by machine, but beautiful stitching is also possible through the age-old art of hand embroidery. Women, a majority of world's population received only a small share of development opportunities. They are often excluded from education or from the better jobs, from political system or from adequate health care.



KCT decided to establish a centre of these women to provide them good opportunities for work and high income. The aim of this project is to introduce the Kashmir embroidery in all over the world. After getting suitable response from other world **KCT** will establish the proper centre for Embroidery. There is still lot of females those who cannot afford to come out from their houses due to their social and family setup. **KCT** also design a project for these female. Miss Shaheena is living in centre plate ward # 11. After the death of her Parents she is bearing the expenditure of her family. There are 5 members in her family and she is sewing cloth since 15years. **KCT** establish a centre of sewing cloth in centre plate. **KCT** is also planning to help female like Shaheena in future.



Rubble Removing Campaign

Rubble removing campaign was started under the banner of **KCT** by the volunteers of Kasamira Relief Committee of Centre Plate. Its objectives were to encourage the youth of disaster area to start the reconstruction at their own hand. One hundred and fifty volunteers were gathered in Girls High School for removing rubble. This campaign was started at 31st of December 2005.



Pilot Project: Training for Prevention of Fire Hazard

The life in camps is full of hazards, the hazards of the fire are taken care off and volunteers were trained to manage and extinguish fire with readily available materials in camps.

Young Leaders workshop

This workshop was arranged to encourage the development of the young leaders and empowers the victims of the earthquake to take leadership role in reconstruction and rehabilitation. Linda, Mike Duffy and Dennis were the facilitators of the workshop. In this workshop there were thirty five participants.

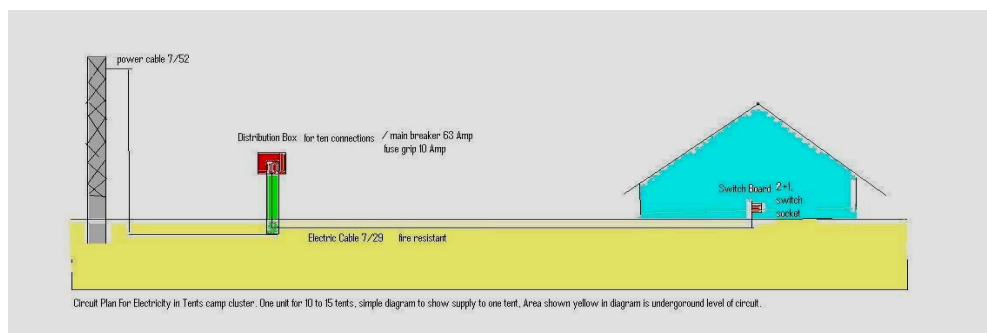


Prevention of Electricity Hazards

After the Earth quake of Oct 8, 2006, Lot number homeless have moved to tents camps in different localities. Many of these camps are provided with electricity which is being used for illumination and other purposes like heating etc. As these camps are not planed so the standard of wiring is not satisfactory. Wires are hanging around the camps most often with poor insulation and associated risk of electric hazard. Incidence of electrocution and burn has been recorded with reported injuries and loss of life.



Design for Electricity Project



As described in above figure, Power cable was taken from electric pole to the distribution box protected by circuit breaker (63 Amp). Then to fuse grips of 10 Amp to each distribution point,

attached here the electric cable 7/29, taken underground to the tents provided with switch board having to two switches, one bulb/tube light and one socket

Ground work:-

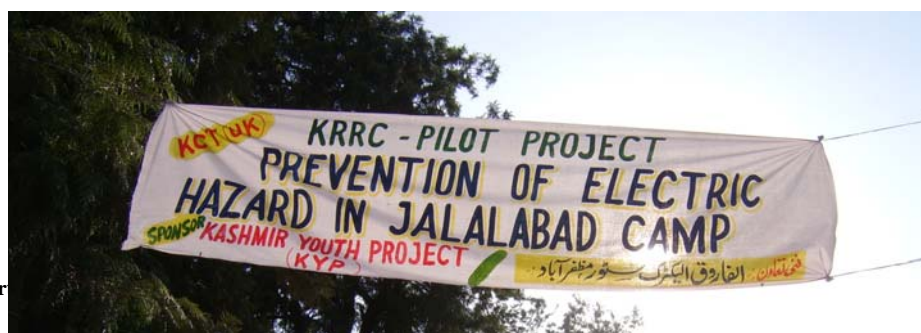
Cluster of 48 camp tents were selected in Jalalabad Camp. And wiring of the 48 tents was completed according to circuit Plan described above.



Observation:-

New design of the electric supply to the camp is user friendly and safe. Th people living the camp do have concerned about the electric Hazard and appreciated the Idea of New wiring which the found safe.

Other NGO and the media took keen interest in the project and consider it role model for provision of electricity to camp. Maneer Kiani , the electrician while speaking to Pakistan TV emphasises the need of extending this pattern of power supply and distribution to camp to minimize the hazard associated with use of Electricity.



Extendable Permanent Shelter

The technical assistance for this project was provided by KCT to build about hundreds of extendable permanent shelters in Koori Chan a near Ali Sojal. Sahara Trust also participated in that project. Financial and technical support was also provided to KRRC in Rawalakot under the supervision of Dr. Sagheer Khan to execute this project.



Medical Relief

Earthquake of October 8 2005, with magnitude of 7.4 on rector's scale resulted in loss of life and properties to such an extent, which crippled the government and its institutions. A large number of patients and Medical teams around the world reached in Muzaffarabad to care for injured and diseased.



Dr. Mohsin Shakil was one of these doctors who came from Bradford for the duty. He was already working in Azad Kashmir Health Department as Consultant Urologist. The earthquake shocks the Kashmiri Community of Bradford as else where in UK. Meanwhile a meeting of KRRC and KCT held in Bradford in which local Kashmiri Community gathered to plan strategy for relief. It was decided to send a mission to disaster areas headed by Dr. Mohsin Shakil because he was familiar with the local conditions to provide immediate help required, to evaluate the situation and prepare strategy for mid term rehabilitation. The aim of this project, involve local youth in reconstruction and economic regeneration by empowering them with different methods to take up the job.

About 30,000 patients received consultation from Surgical OPD. Since then about 12,500 of those had treated by Dr.Mohsin Shakil. He also performed more then hundred specialized Urological procedures.

Future projects

Female Literacy Centre

KCT want to establish a female computer literacy centre for female of affected area. The centre will be in Muzaffarabad and after completing this centre in Muzaffarabad then kct will also establish other centre in rural areas of Azad Kashmir.

Tourism Department

“**Haven on the earth**” this phrase is famous for Kashmir’s beauty, KRRC decided to establish its own tourism department. Aim of this project to empower the local community.

Social Library

The community of Azad Kashmir has not enough knowledge about social work and just because of that the people cannot understand the benefits of social work. KRRC decided to establish a library for the community of Azad Kashmir.

Economic Regeneration

KCT will establish two handicrafts factories in Tariqa abad and Centre.

National Reconstruction of Volunteers program

Training of 20 boys will conduct every month in basic volunteer’s skills to prepare the youth to participate in rescue and relief operation required in similar conditions in future.

Education/Training Program

Training for the teachers will held to adopt British education system in Sep/Oct.

Orphans Education

The volunteer management decided to collect the data of Orphans and widows from the different area of AJK. After assessing the expenditure of that orphans KCT will ask donor for sufficient donation for these children.

Rescue Centre

Swimming in river is very well-known sport of Muzaffarabad adolescents. But whenever any boy drowns in this river the poor parents couldn’t find the body of their beloved son. Due to lack of emergency centre for these problems the majority of the community failed to bury the dead body of their beloveds. KCT wants to establish a disaster and rescue centre for helping people in these miserable conditions.

KCT Blood Bank

Getting blood donation on proper time is very difficult in AJK and due to lack of Blood donation many patients loses their lives. There are more then 275 volunteers in our organization and management decided to establish an office for blood donation. And in this office the data about all volunteers and other local community those who want to participate in blood donation will be manage, so the community could get donation on proper time.

Sports Volunteer Association

The sports teach discipline to the students. They also develop the spirit of sportsmanship and suddenly derive a lot of pleasure by playing games. It also inculcates the quality of team spirit in them. The youth of **AJK** are also taking part in sports, but they don’t have any special academy for teaching games to their younger. **KCT** decided to establish Volunteer Association for Sport activities. The motto of this association is to provide facility to younger to learn different games.

Acknowledgement

After the huge adversity the situation of the Kashmiri territory and the condition of the community of Kashmir were depressed. In those conditions the friends determined to help their native Kashmiries for their betterment. Our entire project shows that involving the local community can save our time and money. The secret behind the success of these projects was the involvement of local community who were familiar with the basic problem of their community and the ways to overcome the crisis. Friends contributed a lot in developing projects other than above mentioned task according to the requirements in affected areas along with adopting guideline as **Apnayan nal milli tah apnayan astay kam karo** involvement of local community in relief work by finding the ways to empower them. After completing the short term relief operation they decided to start long term rehabilitation process. The community still need the help for their better and bright future, and for that KCT will come to all other Organizations to work with them for the betterment of the disaster area



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