



# Project Feedback Report



**Project:** Ramadhan Food Parcels

**Location:** Gaza, Palestine

**MH Officer:** Saed Saleh (Muslim Hands Palestine)



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## The Region

Palestine, currently under occupation, is located on the East coast of the Mediterranean Sea, West of Jordan and to the south of Lebanon.

Since the beginning of Al Aqsa Intifada in late 2000, the Palestinian economy has been in a steep decline. This economic crisis has severely affected residents of the Gaza Strip, who already suffer from historically high levels of poverty. The estimated poverty rate in the Gaza Strip during the 2nd quarter of 2006 reached 87.7% with the unemployment rate more than 35%.

The current siege imposed on the Gaza Strip has greatly increased the level of poverty overall and currently 80% of Gazans depend on external aid.

## Outline of the Project

It is against this backdrop that the Muslim Hands office in Gaza has been running simple yet effective programmes to provide families throughout the Gaza Strip with food parcels, especially during the blessed month of Ramadhan.

*Alhamdulillah*, the generous funds we received for this project were enough to provide food parcels to more than 1,000 families. Each food parcel costs £15 and contains foodstuffs such as olive oil, corn oil, rice, sugar, tea, peas, dates, tomato sauce etc.



## Mater's Family Tragedy

Mater lives with her family of 12 in the Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza. Her family received one of the Ramadhan food packages and we were truly shocked by the conditions they live in.

Their house is located in an area without waste drainage and is so close to pools of waste water that mosquitoes and flies are constantly in the house.

Mater's husband Seoyd, like many Gazans, lost his job about seven years ago during the intifada and consequent Israeli closures. Seoyd told us, **"Since I lost my job I've been dependent on food supplied by generous people. I don't have money to buy school uniforms for my kids. Every winter our house floods with rain and waster water. Last year, we managed to escape the house just 5 minutes before it was fully immersed."**



The Prophet (saws) said: "Anyone who offers meal for the breaking of the fast of another person earns the same merit as the one who was observing the fast without diminishing in any way the recompense of the fasting person." [Tirmidhi]



