

# Pakistan

## 25,000 Refugees Helped at Muslim Hands Camps



More than 140 tonnes of food and blankets were delivered here to feed and assist the constantly growing population.

Four emergency medical care centres and ambulance units were set up in the surrounding regions to help fight against the threat of disease and the treatment of common illnesses such as diarrhoea. More than 10% of the inhabitants of this area suffer from TB and a vaccination programme covering 15,000 people was undertaken immediately. Two full time doctors were employed at each of the two camps.

Water supply remained an arduous task throughout the relief campaign as tanker lorries ran from camp to camp on a daily basis providing a continuous supply of clean water, totalling more than 30,000 litres per day.

Five temporary schools catering for nearly 800 children and a mosque were set up at the camp. Children also received reading books, stationary and sports equipment to help keep them entertained and bring some aspect of normality back to their lives.

Umarkot Distribution Centre, Sindh: Set up in a similar fashion to the distribution centre at Shingar, Muslim Hands Pakistan supplied food, medical care and other essentials to more than 5,000 families at the camp and also delivered aid to the surrounding regions.

Al-Hamdulillah, the drought has subsided and the refugees have returned to their villages, but many of them still face tremendous hardship. Your support is as still needed as ever.

## Safe Water Projects

Dependable water supply is the primary key in solving the acute problems facing Balochistan and Sindh. Muslim Hands conducted extensive surveying of suitable locations where water is available even during drought periods.



**Mirpur, Balochistan:** For the past four years, a community of 5,000 in Mirpur have been dependant on water supply from a source 5km away. The source is actually a dirty pond that is unsafe to drink from and is a health hazard.

Muslim Hands Pakistan is now in the process of installing a **22km pipeline** to Mirpur (and neighbouring villages) that will provide safe and clean drinking water throughout the year. A large water storage system is also being built at Mirpur.

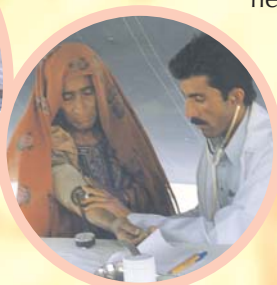
A well (shown above) has also been dug in the village of Mulla-Dooni, and an existing water supply has been made safe.

Three years without rain had left Balochistan and Sindh in a perilous state. More than 750,000 animals perished and numerous villages lay deserted as families fled to safer areas. In the particularly hard hit area of Thar, more than 400 people died as a direct consequence of the drought. More alarmingly, the drought was spreading. Many areas of central and north Pakistan also began to show tell-tale signs of the onset of drought.

With most of their livestock dead and crops destroyed, village-by-village, the inhabitants of large areas of Sindh and Balochistan were forced out of their homes, leaving them impoverished.

Muslim Hands Pakistan took charge of two large refugee camps at Shingar, District Kharam, Balochistan and Umarkot in Sindh - the heart of the drought area.

Shingar camp in district Kharam, had become home to around 7000 refugees.



*Daily water-tankers arrive at Muslim Hands camps (top)*

*Food parcels distribution (left)*

*TB Vaccinations for 15,000 at Shingar & Umarkot (near left)*