



 **RAHMA**
(Mercy)

Reg. Charity No. 1097682

ANNUAL REPORT 2017/1438

www.rahmameracy.org.uk

WHERE WE WORK

THE BALKANS



CONTENTS

CEO'S MESSAGE	3
ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP	4
ORPHAN MESSAGES	6
IFTAR	7
MASAAJID RENOVATION	8
MASAAJID	10
EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS	11
MADRASAH	12
ISLAMIC LITERATURE	14
PRESENTATION CEREMONY	15
RAHMA ACADEMY	16
RAHMA SCHOOLS	17
RAHMA EDUCATION CENTRE	18
BOSNIA	20
WATERWELLS	21
QURBANI AND AQEEQAH	22
ZAMZAM/DATES & CLOTHES BANKS	23
TESTIMONIALS	24
FINANCIAL SUMMARY	26
GENERAL APPEALS	27
DONATION METHODS	28

CEO'S MESSAGE

All praise is due to The Almighty, our Creator and Sustainer and abundant salutations upon our beloved Prophet (May The Almighty send peace and blessings upon him).

Dear Respected Readers.

It is solely through the grace of the Almighty, your prayers and support that Rahma (Mercy) has been working for 18 years in the Balkans. From our humble beginning as an Aid Convoy outbound for Albania to assist Kosovan refugees, we have evolved into an organisation that is sponsoring orphans, building Masaajid and schools, running over one hundred Madrasahs, providing aid to the poor and needy and empowering people through education. It has been a long journey with many hurdles but with your phenomenal support and prayers we have managed to overcome them.

You, the donor, deserve to know where all your hard-earned money is being spent and I can assure you it is going towards worthy causes. In this report you will find the details of all Rahma projects. My personal highlight of the year was when two of our students finished the Hifz (memorisation) of the holy Quran in the short time span of one year. We have also managed to secure the Land which we were appealing for last year and have begun collecting for our major project, the Rahma Education Centre (REC). Further details will be found in this report.

To conclude, I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the team I have around me as without them none of these projects would be possible. We have a team in the UK and a team on the ground in our project countries, both who work tirelessly to implement our projects and each member is invaluable. I am also humbled by the support we have received by other organisations and charity partners both locally and overseas, especially The Al-Imdaad Foundation, with whom our collaboration has intensified over the past four years.

'In working together there is no limit in what we can achieve in striving to serve humanity'

Maulana Khalil Patel
CEO

ORPHANS

**We are now supporting over
1000 orphans**

381 in Albania (£264 a year/£22 a month)

300 in Kosovo (£264 a year/£22 a month)

70 in Serbia (£264 a year/£22 a month)

50 in Macedonia (£264 a year/£22 a month)

200 Palestinian Orphans (£300 a year/£25 a month)





Until now we have been providing financial help to the orphans directly. From May 2017 we will begin to phase in a new system in Albania by which we will be purchasing groceries, meat, sanitary and winter warmth (seasonal) items in bulk and distributing them directly to the orphans. Purchasing in bulk will allow us to purchase better quality items at lower prices alongside giving the orphans a greater value for their money.

We would like to make a special mention to Muslim Aid Australia (MAA) for sponsoring 200 orphans.

“Endeavour to fulfil the needs of widows and orphans. He who does so is equal (in rewards) to one who strives in the path of the Almighty Creator.” (BUKHARI)

ORPHAN'S MESSAGE



Esselamu Alaikum

Dt.02/03/2017

I am Lirie Karaj, i am aunt of Meisa Karaj. Her parents died in a car accident at 2014. Now Meisa is being part of my family, I am caring for her as my daughter. Our family members are, me,my husband,my childrens, my parents and my little daughter Meisa. Meisa's birthday is at February 23th 2013.

We are very happy with you Rahma Mercy. You have 3 years in our life, you are as a family for Meisa and for us too. You was always near us. You supported us and continue doing same thing now on. Meisa is growing up with Rahma Mercy. Allah give light to your way inshaAllah.



Esselamu Alaikum

Dt.02/03/2017

I am Eranda Balliu. My mother's name is Serma Balliu. My birthday is April 18th 2004. My family contain 5 members. My father has passed away. I have my mother, my brother and my 3 sisters. I am so happy having all of you in our life, your supportion is huge. I have 2 years being part of Rahma Mercy, you helped us so much and same way you are helping us now. You all gave us a big supportion becouse you are feeding us and I am growing up with you.

My mother is calm now becouse she know that there is someone who can hold our hand. You are always near us. You all gave us the possibility to be educated, to go to school, learning new things, buying new things, buying new clothes in case to be similar as our school friends.

We always pray for Rahma Mercy May Allah reward all members of Rahma Mercy for all supportion.



IFTAR



Rahma has been instrumental in providing Iftar across the Balkans during the month of Ramadan. Last year we handed out over 7000 Iftar parcels. Each food pack contains all the essential items a family needs to have a decent meal twice a day.

It costs only £10 to feed a family for 10 days or £30 for the whole month.

MASAJID RENOVATION



The Rahma Masaajid projects have been affected by the harsh climate of the Balkans. Rahma (Mercy) will begin renovating our Masaajid after Ramadhan and we would like donors to come forth to take responsibility of a Masjid. Below is a list of all our Masaajid and the cost of those that need renovating.

NO	NAME	AREA	YEAR	HOMES SERVED	RENOVATION REQUIRED	COST
1	Masjid Rahma	Morine, Skenderbej, Kosovo	2002	85	NO	
2	Masjid Noor	Mengel, Elbasan, Albania	2004	310	NO	
3	Masjid Farook	Xibrake poshte, Elbasan, Albania	2004	150	YES	€8,470
4	Masjid Umar	Zois, Kosovo	2005	120	NO	
5	Masjid Rahman	Griqan poshte, Elbasan, Albania	2006	190	YES	€10,875
6	Masjid Khadijah	Xibrake Larte, Elbasan, Albania	2007	52	YES	€8,695
7	Masjid Othman	Qarret, Elbasan, Albania	2007	110	NO	
8	Masjid Bilal	Labinot Mal, Elbasan, Albania	2007	120	YES	€9,741
9	Masjid Al-Hajar Al-Aswad	Guri zi, Elbasan, Albania	2007	85	YES	€8,475
10	Masjid Aamina	Godolesh, Elbasan, Albania	2007	120	YES	€11,605
11	Masjid Salam	Shegune, Elbasan, Albania	2007	170	YES	€6,305
12	Masjid Umar	Teqe, Elbasan, Albania	2009	400	YES	€5,515
13	Masjid Salim	Elbasan city, Albania	2010	500	NO	
14	Musalla Colombo	Labinot, Elbasan, Albania	2010	75	NO	
15	Masjid Habibullah	Elbasan city, Albania	2011	400	YES	€8,355
16	Musalla Krasta	Krasta, Elbasan, Albania	2012	300	NO	
17	Masjid Bukhari	Miraka, Librazhd, Albania	2013	150	YES	€7,035
18	Masjid Luqman	Funares, Librazhd, Albania	2014	150	NO	
19	Masjid Zubair-ul-Hasan	Balez, Elbasan, Albania	2014	400	NO	
20	Masjid Farah Saeed	Spathare, Librazhd, Albania	2015	120	NO	
21	Masjid Majeed	Vehcan, Librazhd, Albania	2015	300	NO	
22	Masjid Yusuf	Suhadoll, Kosovo	2015	150	NO	
23	Masjid Ibrahim	Xhyra, Librazhd, Albania	2016	400	NO	
24	Masjid Naseeha	Bradashesh, Elbasan, Albania	2016	500	NO	
25	Masjid Hafiz Mohammed Patel	Elbasan City	UNDER CONSTRUCTION			

MASAJID

Masjid Hafiz Mohammed Patel (RA)

Rahma (Mercy) is building its 25th Masjid in the heart of Elbasan, Albania. This Masjid is being built in the memory of the late Hafiz Patel Saheb (May the Almighty have Mercy upon him). He was such an amazing personality who left a great legacy behind.

The work he has achieved in his lifetime is something to marvel upon. His passing on 18th February 2016 has left a hole in the hearts of millions and words cannot justify what he has achieved. The Masjid will have a capacity of up to 500 people and it will also include facilities for women. The ground floor will consist of the prayer hall, the Imam's room and a small sitting area for guests.

There will be an upstairs balcony for women. The masjid will have a kitchen and three additional rooms for Madrassa classes and accommodation for jamats. It will also have separate toilet facilities for men, women and madrasah children.

The cost of the Masjid is £220,000. Currently the work is in moving along swiftly with the Masjid expected to be complete and open in October 2017. Our standard Masjid costs **€60,000**.



EDUCATION & SCHOOLS



Spathare School



Xibrake School

Rahma (Mercy) strives to promote educational projects. One of which, is the building and renovation of primary schools. Many villages are deprived of safe buildings for children to study in. As part of our educational campaign we build primary schools so the youth can have a bright future. This school in Spathare was built and opened by Rahma (Mercy) in October 2016 at a cost €30,000.

Harsh winters have caused severe weathering of some schools. A primary school in Xibrake had major leakages and other damages to the property. Rahma conducted some renovation work in August 2016 as part of the Xibrake School Renovation.

MADRASAH



Hifz Programme

Our Hifz (Qur'an memorisation) classes have been running extremely well. In total, five students have completed their Hifz. This is an exceptional achievement for people who have recently come out of heavy handed communist regimes in which merely possessing a Qur'an was a crime.

Madrasah

The Madrasah programme has been very effective in imparting Islamic knowledge within the local communities of Albania and Kosovo. All praise is due to The Almighty who has given us the ability to open 115 of these institutions. These institutions are proving to be very successful and we would like to thank all the donors wholeheartedly for supporting this project. Within the Madrasah sector we have special classes for college and university students. We also have parents and grandparents that attend the Madrasahs with their children. The young and the old are very enthusiastic when it comes to learning and it truly is inspirational. Would you like to be involved in this project? We are appealing to open 10 new Madrasahs after Ramadhan.

It costs only £2500 to sponsor the running of a Madrasah for a year.



Boarding

This year we introduced our very first boarding facility. We chose 12 students from different communities and are providing them with further Islamic education as well as mainstream school education at the Rahma Academy. In addition to this, we have another full time course available for students that are not in boarding at another location. Our aim with this programme is to nurture this young talent into becoming the future Imams and teachers of their respective localities.

ISLAMIC LITERATURE

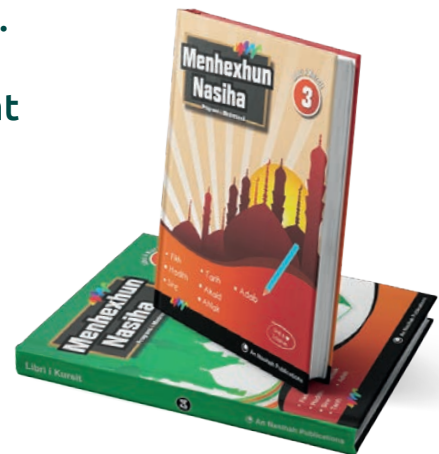
It has now been four years since the launch of the An Nasiha Syllabus book sets in the Albanian language. The madrasah children have really benefitted from these books.

We regularly revise and re-print thousands of copies for the benefit of all the children in Albania and Kosovo. The Rahma (Mercy) staff and the children of Albania and Kosovo would like to convey their appreciations to The Land of Learning Primary School for raising over £12,000 towards educational projects.

If you're interested in donating towards our literature projects, please get in contact with us. Donate a Qur'an Project Rahma (Mercy) is working in partnership with donatequran.com to provide Albanian and English Qur'ans for free distribution.

This is an excellent da'wah project and a great means of Sadaqah Jariyah.

An Nasiha complete syllabus is £15 a set.



dQ
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Please support the Donate Quran project at £3.50 per Qur'an.

PRESENTATION CEREMONY



We provide many incentives to the students as a form of encouragement to study hard. Students are given gifts, food packs, cash prizes and also taken for a picnic. These incentives are really effective in getting students to come on a regular basis and to study hard. Students really enjoy showcasing their talent at presentation ceremonies.

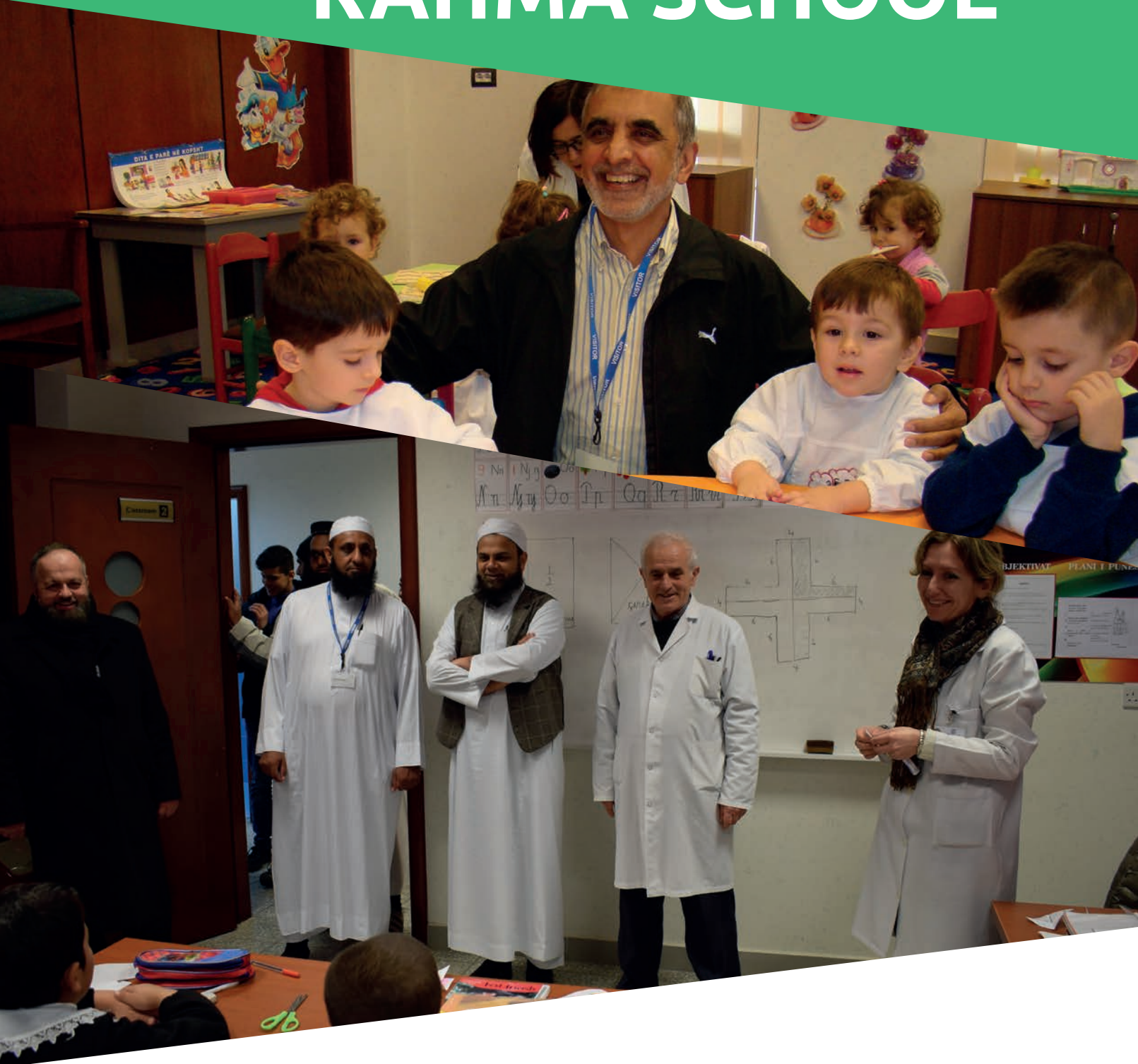
RAHMA ACADEMY



The Rahma Academy has been serving the local community since September 2013. This state of the art facility is providing essential facilities for both those residence in the Elbasan Municipality of Albania and the wider national community. The Academy houses the Rahma School, Evening Madrasah, Girls Hifz Class and weekend courses comprising of Islamic Studies, IT and English lessons.

It hosts regular events for women and is a base for providing Iftar meals during the month of Ramadan. We also held our first intense Child Protection & Safeguarding Course for all local Project Staff who are involved with children and vulnerable people. We were honoured to have Ml. Mohammed Patel from FMO Leicester and Leicester City Council to deliver this course first hand. In short it would suffice to say that the Rahma Academy is a popular centre of education and community work.

RAHMA SCHOOL



The Rahma School is the biggest project that is operating in the Academy. The school has reached its maximum capacity in the short space of 3 years. There are currently 370 students (120 more than the last school year 2015/2016) and all school year classes are now full and operational; ranging from Nursery, up to and including the final class of High School (Year 12). Other schools from around the country choose the Rahma Academy as a venue to hold National competitions and events in various topics ranging from Mathematics to History, as the Rahma School has gained a reputable status within the whole of Albania.

RAHMA EDUCATION CENTRE

The ongoing success of The Rahma Academy has led us to build another complex to complement the existing work we are doing. Last year we successfully appealed and purchased 6,000 m² of land.

The educational complex has been named The Rahma Education Centre (REC) and will include the following:

- Boarding Facility for Girls higher Islamic education
- Madrassah
- Prayer Hall
- Kindergarten
- Primary School
- Secondary School
- Canteen
- Conference Hall
- Outdoor Playing Area
- Indoor Play Area
- Car Parking
- Shops



RAHMA EDUCATION CENTRE



The Rahma Education Centre (REC) will be built in phases. We intend to start the work on the first phase of this project in early 2018. Initially we will be building the boarding facility at the rear section of the land and gradually working our way forward. The projected cost for the total project is £4 million. We kindly request donors to donate wholeheartedly to get this project up and running.

BOSNIA

We are continuing our support for the Nahla Centre of Education and Research in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Our educational projects are being conducted in three locations (Sarajevo, Bihac and Tuzla).

The courses are:

1. Religious Studies
2. Muslim Youth Empowerment

These courses include a range of lectures, modules and activities to help the students develop as good Muslims. We have 256 students enrolled in these courses. Total cost is £16,934.



WATERWELLS

One in ten people today are still living without safe water. When a community gets clean, safe water for the first time, it's the start of something truly life-changing. Right now, some of the world's poorest people don't have access to safe water to drink, decent toilets or hygiene.

Without these basics, overcoming poverty is just a dream. When people donate towards a well, everything changes for these people.

DONATE A WATER WELL FOR £1,300 ONLY.



QURBANI AND AQEEQAH

Qurbani

Rahma (Mercy) carries out the practice of Qurbani (Udhiyyah) every year following upon the tradition of Prophet Ibrahim (Alayhis Salaam). Last year we managed to sacrifice 100 sheep and 5 cows. The meat was distributed amongst the poor and needy people in the Balkan region.

The cost of Qurbani this year is £75 per sheep/share of a large animal. The total cost of a large cow is £525 which equates to 7 shares.

Aqeeqah

We also provide Aqeeqah service upon request at £100 per animal.



ZAMZAM AND DATES

Zam Zam

Break your iftar with Zam Zam and dates from Rahma (Mercy). The profit we make goes towards administration costs so that 100% of your donation can go towards charitable purposes. Please visit one of our branches and purchase some dates from us for the month of Ramadan.
(Zam Zam £35 – 10 Litre Bottle)

Dates

TYPE OF DATES	WEIGHT	PRICE
Ajwa	500g	£10.00 – Special Offer
Kalmi (Safawi)	500g	£4.00
Medjoul (Jumbo Dates)	900g	£10.00
Medjoul (Jumbo Dates)	5kg	£49.00

Clothing Banks

We have clothing banks across the country and they create a substantial amount of funding for Rahma Mercy administration purposes. Just by recycling clothes and shoes you can make a huge difference.

If you would like to assist our charity by putting a clothing bank at your premises, please get in contact with us.



TESTIMONIALS



As-salāmu ‘alaykum wa-rahmatullāhi wa-barakātuh,

Albania: A trip that left me inspired!

We are all aware of the Islamic concept of we plan & The Almighty plans, we think and The Almighty decides, we attempt and The Almighty does.

My trip to Albania gave me a good reminder of this fundamental Islamic belief. I was of the notion that I was invited to Albania to witness first-hand the legacy of communism and decades of total religious depravation, report back on my observations to the South African Muslim community and offer religious advises and inspiration to the Muslims of Albania.

It was only a few hours into the journey when the realization hit me that Allah Ta’aala had brought me to Albania so that I could learn and be the recipient of inspiration! Yes, the Albanian Muslim community still has a long journey ahead in terms of securing basic knowledge of Deen, developing religious infrastructure and shaping religious identity.

However, the character they display, their enthusiasm and sacrifice in pursuit of religious knowledge, their humility, zeal to practice on whatever they have learnt and selflessness despite constrained circumstances is a necessary reminder for those of us who may possess more knowledge and come from a background of stronger religious infrastructure but have forgotten these basic and core values of our Deen.

I was further inspired by the dedication and professionalism with which the Rahma Mercy team serve the Deen in Albania. Their achievements and ongoing commitment is indeed commendable and worthy of emulation.

I have travelled to a number of countries for a variety of reasons, but hardly has a short trip to any country left me so touched, humbled and inspired. Their hospitality is indeed profound and their projects are pioneering in nature. My Duas are ongoing for all Deeni efforts in Albania

Shaykh Sulaimaan M. Ravat
Presenter Radio Islam International, South Africa



TESTIMONIALS

I always looked at the country of Albania on the World Map and wondered what this country would be like in terms of people and culture. Moreover, how much the religion of Islam was practiced and are there any institutes imparting basic and higher Islamic knowledge after the long communist suppression? A wish came true and a dua was answered when The Almighty granted me the opportunity to experience this part of paradise on earth for myself in October 2016. I was totally taken aback by the natural beauty of this Balkan country. Mountains, rivers, streams, farms, forests and Masjid minarets everywhere to be seen. I was introduced to Rahma (Mercy) last year and was totally amazed to see the astounding work they are doing in Albania. They have adopted this country as their own and have given the poor children of Albania more than they would perhaps give their own children in terms of love, education, spirituality, financial aid and health.

The Rahma Academy is a state of the art masterpiece that vies with any modern-day school and caters for the schooling of hundreds of underprivileged children. I heard a young girl at the school saying “the teachers understand us”, rather than the cliché “we understand our teachers” which speaks a lot about the bond and care that exists. More than a decade ago I was involved in opening Maktabas in West Africa and visiting the Maktabas in Albania refreshed these emotional feelings and truly took me down memory lane. We visited few homes in the high mountains to deliver some Aid. However more than I think we helped them, they helped us in understanding simplicity and happiness. The most enjoyable part of our trip was a special presentation held for us by the students of Rahma Mercy. They gave speeches, sang nasheeds in several languages and exhibited their confidence in the most amazing way. The Prophet (Salallahu Alayhi Wasallam) said “Before the day of Judgement the best possession of a man will be his flock of sheep in the mountains.” There could not be any place befitting this hadith more than the mountain peaks of Elbasan dotted with Masjid minarets. Albania we are proud of you! Rahma Mercy students we are proud of you!

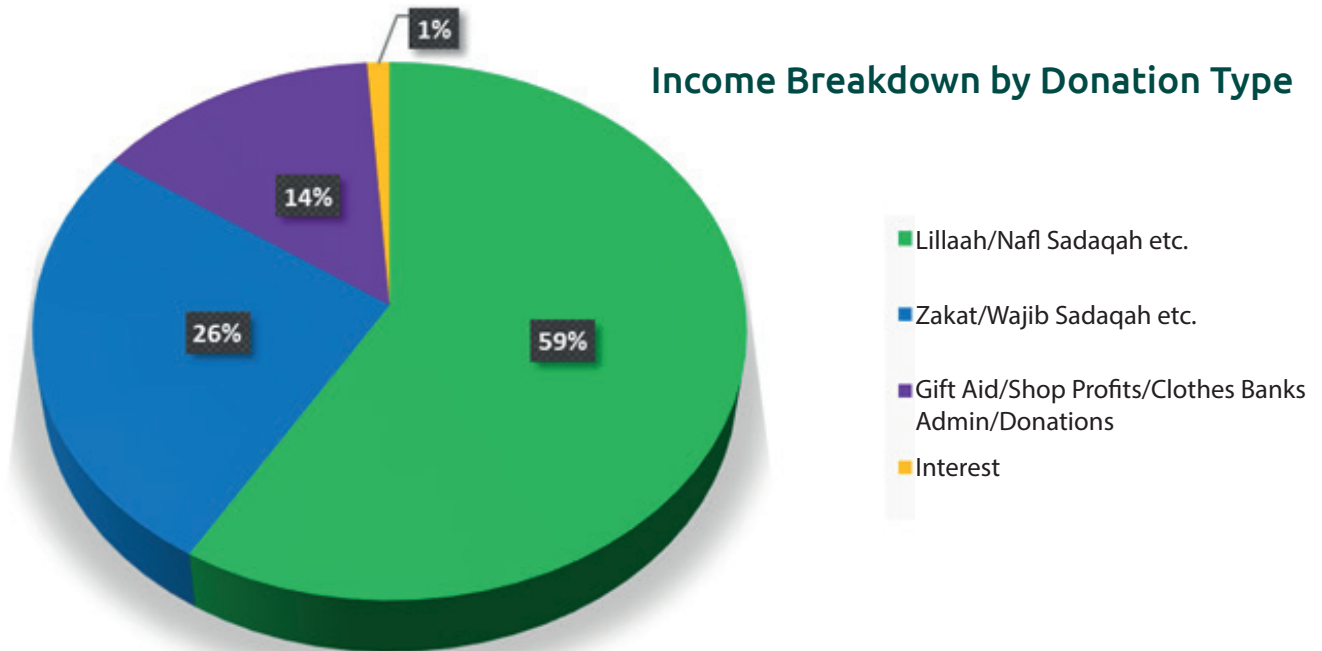
Mufti Zeeyad Ravat
Pillars Of Guidance Community Centre,
Melbourne, Australia

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2016

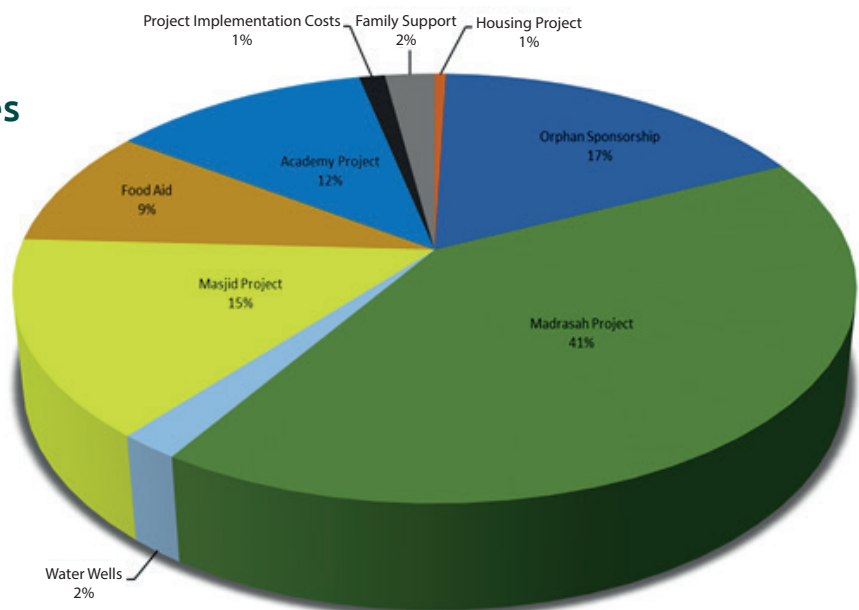
Total Income: £1,417,569
Total Expenditure: £1,667,576*

*Additional Expenditure is due to funds available from the previous year.

Income Breakdown by Donation Type



Expenditure of Charitable Activities



GENERAL APPEALS

Zakat & Wajib Sadaqah Projects (Lillah also applicable)

FOOD AID:

- Ramadan Iftar - £10 for 10 days
- Sadaqatul Fitr - £3/person
- Fidya - £3/fast
- Kaffarah - £360/fast
- Qurbani - £75/share OR £525/large animal

ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP:

- Albania/Kosovo/Serbia/Macedonia: £22/month OR £264/annum
- Palestine £25/month OR £300/annum

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP:

- Madrasah Student Sponsorship - £10/month OR £120/annum
- Rahma School Student Sponsorship - £41.66/month OR £500/annum

HOUSE CONSTRUCTION:

Albania - £13,000 (average price, may vary according to location)

EMERGENCY APPEALS

Any amount

Lillah & Nafl Sadaqah (Only) Projects

WATER WELL

(Albania/Kosovo) - £1300

MADRASAH

(Albania/Kosovo/Serbia) - £208.33/month OR £2500/annum

MASJID CONSTRUCTION £50,000

(average price, will vary according to size and location)

MASJID RENOVATION

- Any amount

BOSNIA

(Nahla Education Centre) – Any Amount

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION £30,000

(average price, will vary according to size and location)

RAHMA ACADEMY MAINTENANCE

Any amount

RAHMA EDUCATION CENTRE

(REC) – Any Amount

ADMINISTRATION

Any Amount

DONATE TO THE MOST NEEDY

THIS GIVES US THE OPTION TO SPEND YOUR MONEY ON THE PROJECTS THAT RAHMA (MERCY) SEES FIT.

DONATION METHODS

DEBIT/CREDIT CARD:

Call +44 (0)116 251 6959

POST:

Cheques/Postal Orders payable to "Rahma (Mercy)" (please indicate the donation type and project on the back of the cheque), then post to: Rahma (Mercy), 56 Hartington Road, Leicester, LE2 0GN.

STANDING ORDER:

Fill out the donation form to make regular donations by bank standing order.

ONLINE DONATIONS:

Please visit our website: www.rahmamercy.org.uk

BANK TRANSFER:

Transfer money directly to: Rahma (Mercy)
Barclays Bank
Sort Code: 20-49-17
Account Number: 10537330

For international transfers: Rahma (Mercy)
IBAN: GB BARC 2049 1710 5373 30
Swift Bic: BARCGB22

SMS:

Text a code using one of the codes below and amount to 70070. (You will be charged at your standard messaging rate plus the donation. If you have a free text message allowance then you will ONLY be charged for the amount of your donation.)

Example – Text "WELL07 £10" to "70070" to donate £10 towards a Water Well.

PROJECT	CODE
Water Well	WELL07
Islamic Books	BOOK35
Madrasah Student	MDST10
Food Aid (Food Pack)	FDPL10
Admin Costs	ADMN10
Most Needy Sadaqah Donation	SDQA10
Most Needy Lillah Donation	LILL10

OUR OFFICES

HEAD OFFICE
56 HARTINGTON ROAD
LEICESTER
LE2 0GN

TEL: +44 (0)116 251 6959

BATLEY BRANCH
38 OXFORD STREET
BATLEY
WF17 7PR

TEL: +44 (0)1924 846 293