



QURBANI 2010

RAHMA ISLAMIC RELIEF FUND, NORWAY



Implemented by

RAHMA ISLAMIC RELIEF, PAKISTAN

*Project Coordinator: Zulqarnain Ansari
Contact No: +92-300-5553629*

RAHMA Islamic Relief, Pakistan
314 – Poonch House Complex, Saddar, Rawalpindi
Phone: +92-51-5513117, Fax: +92-51-5513017
Website: www.rahma.org
Email: pakistan@rahma.no

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sacrifice, commonly known as Qurbani, means slaughter of an animal in the name of Allah on the 10th, 11th or 12th of the Islamic month of Zil Hijjah. Qurbani is to commemorate the unprecedented sacrifice offered by the Prophet Ibrahim.

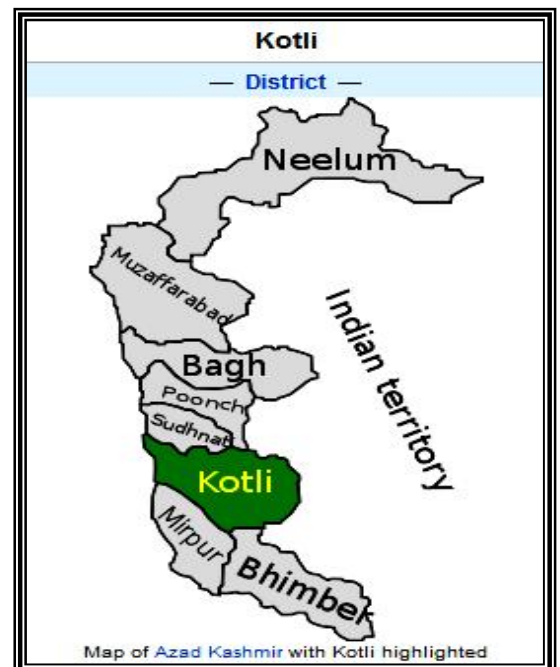
Qurbani is part of Eid- ul- Adha, which is one of the most important Islamic occasions of the year. Eid-ul-Adha marks the end of Hajj, the sacred pilgrimage to the holy city of Makkah (KSA). It occurs on the 10th, 11th and 12th day of the Islamic month of Zil-Hijja. But the date of Eid-ul-Adha depends on the visibility of the moon each year. The hajj to Makkah is once-in-a-lifetime obligation upon adult men and women whose health and means permit it, or, in the words of the Qur'an, upon:

"those who can make their way there."

Muslims commemorate this outstanding act of sacrifice by themselves slaughtering an animal such as a sheep, bull, camel, or a goat. People, who are not performing the holy pilgrimage, also carry out this traditional sacrifice. Qurbani is not merely limited to slaughtering an animal, but actually it means sharing the meat with poor Muslims and relatives. The Qurbani meat has to be divided in three equal and identical parts; one for relatives, one for the poor Muslims and one for the family of the person who offers sacrifice. This act of Qurbani also reminds the Muslims to share worldly goods with those who are less fortunate, and serves as an offer of thanksgiving to Allah.

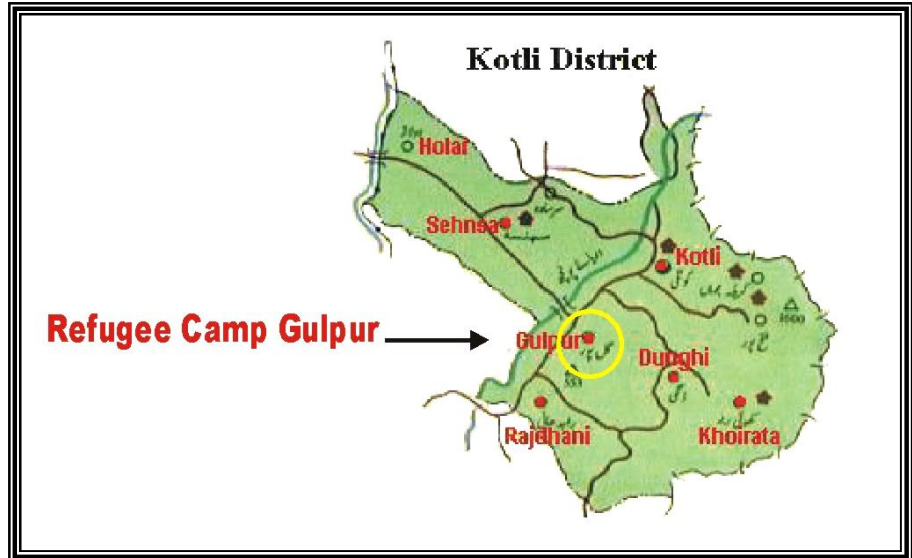
RAHMA Islamic Relief Pakistan (RAHMA Pakistan/RIRP), with the partnership of the RAHMA Islamic Relief Fund, Norway (RAHMA Norway) each year performs Qurbani on behalf of its supporters and distributes meat amongst the neediest people. In 2010; on the eve of Eid-ul-Azha, RAHMA distributed meat amidst the 197 families living in the Gulpur Refugee Camp in district Kotli of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).

Gulpur is a small town comprising a few local villages as well as a large refugee camp for the refugees hailing from Indian held Kashmir. Some twenty years back thousands of Kashmiris from the Indian Occupied Kashmir entered into Azad Kashmir, through Line of Control (LoC) due to atrocities committed by Indian security forces. This migration took place from 1991 to 1995, during which thousands of Kashmiris crossed the LoC into Azad Kashmir to save their lives and honor. These refugees were kept in different camps located in Azad Kashmir. Gulpur Refgee Camp is one of them.





The inhabitants of these camps are still facing a number of difficulties and their life is still miserable. These displaced people still don't have many basic facilities of life. Majority of the inhabitants of these camps are poor laborers and have no full time jobs for their survival. For the last more or less twenty



years thousands of Kashmiris living in refugee camps are facing hardships in overcoming their poverty. Their struggle for a better life is still continued.

Due to the above mentioned reasons, RAHMA Islamic Relief decided to distribute the Qurbani meat among 197 deserving families of Gulpur Refugee Camp.

1) GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME:	Qurbani Meat Distribution among Kashmiri Refugees in Azad Kashmir – Pakistan
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	RAHMA ISLAMIC RELIEF NORWAY
COOPERATION PARTNERS:	RAHMA ISLAMIC RELIEF PAKISTAN LOCAL VOLUNTEERS
AREA/COUNTRY:	Refugee Camp Gulpur (Kotli, Azad Kashmir)
FUNDS RECEIVED:	PKR- 360,000
PROJECT EXPENSES:	PKR- 360,000

Location	Cow/Oxen			Goat/sheep			Total		Organization Name
	Unit (Rs.)	No.	Total (Rs.)	Unit (Rs.)	No.	Total (Rs.)	Animals	Total (Rs.)	
Kotli AJK for refugees	35,000	6	210,000	15,000	10	150,000	16	360,000	RAHMA Pakistan

2) EFFECTIVENESS AND RESULTS

a) Project Objectives

- § To distribute Qurbani meat amongst the Kashmiri refugees displaced from Indian held Jammu and Kashmir as a result of the brutalities of Indian Armed Forces.
- § To contribute towards reducing malnutrition among the community and particularly the vulnerable women, children and elderly by providing them with meat at least once in a year.
- § To make refugees realize the presence of people living abroad (Donors) sharing their joyous Eid moments with them.

b) Project Implementation

RAHMA Pakistan implemented the Qurbani project in Refugee Camp Gulpur, (Kotli, AJK). Target areas were selected carefully in terms of need as practiced before. The focused area remained the same where RAHMA is already engaged in several activities and have been providing Qurbani meat for the last couple of years. Local volunteers and community played an important role especially in identification of beneficiaries and distribution of meat.

Implementation began with the purchase of sacrificial animals. These animals were purchased locally in accordance with the financial policy of RAHMA Islamic Relief. Tokens for each family were distributed prior to distribution of meat in the process of identification of beneficiaries. RAHMA planned to distribute fresh chopped meat and

in this regard, beneficiaries were asked to appear on the same day of Qurbani along with their tokens. In the presence of all beneficiaries sacrificial animals were slaughtered and chopped meat was packed and distributed amongst the beneficiaries.

RAHMA Pakistan sacrificed 6 cows and 10 goats on behalf of the Muslims who are living in Norway with the help of RAHMA Norway. The average weight of a cow was 130 kg while each goat provided 16 kilograms of meat on average. Total distributed bags were 197 and each bag was printed with RAHMA emblem.

c) Project Outcome:

The execution of the Qurbani project has a positive impact on the lives of needy and deserving refugees. Refugees have cherished the spirit of those people who have not forgotten their needy, unprivileged Muslim brothers on the festivities of Qurbani. On Eid-e-Qurban; overall 197 refugee families (1,397 individuals) have been provided Qurbani meat. One of the most important nutritional needs of human body is Proteins, and meat is the most significant source to acquire Proteins that enable the human body to fight illness and retain immunity system. RAHMA's Qurbani Project has not only provided meat but also improved health and nutrition condition of the refugees by providing them with fresh meat. Nowadays inflation is rampant in Pakistan and in particular, the prices of food commodities are sky-rocketing. This has reduced people's purchasing power and meat is one of the food items that majority of Pakistani people can seldom afford. As of 2008, in Pakistan 17.2% people live below the poverty line and they can barely provide food to their families. Hence they are left with limited choices for food and most probably meat would not be one of their choices. In this situation especially on the eve of Joyous EID, unprivileged refugees have been provided with meat that might not have been possible for them in their routine lives. This has not only provided them with fresh meat, but also brought real happiness of Eid to their families.

3) COORDINATION AND COOPERATION
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RAHMA Pakistan carried out the project with close coordination and cooperation of the respective camp management and volunteers at Gulpur Refugee Camp.

The distribution of qurbani meat to refugees living in camps in Azad Kashmir was made with the coordination and support of the pertinent government functionaries responsible for the settlement and rehabilitation of the refugee populations. The distribution plan was thoroughly shared and discussed at different levels and selection of the beneficiary households primarily was made through an active involvement of the volunteer groups within the refugee people already engaged with RAHMA Pakistan for these conflict-affected populations.

All distributions were made in strict compliance to the Islamic injunctions and within the framework of two fundamental SPHERE (Humanitarian Charter and the Minimum Standards) beliefs; i.e. first, that all possible steps should be taken to alleviate human suffering arising out of calamity and conflict, and second, that those affected by disaster have a right to live with dignity and therefore a right to assistance.

4) THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE

RAHMA Pakistan believes in equal access and opportunities for all genders for a just, equitable and sustainable socio-economic development. RAHMA believed that as human beings; we are all equal in all respect, and according to the sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), no discrimination should be made based on gender, colour, race and wealth. In all humanitarian projects, RAHMA formulates and executes specific strategies for mainstreaming gender issues, collection and analysis of data from a gender perspective, and develop reporting and accountability mechanisms that ensure attention to gender in light of the IASC (Inter-Agency Standing Committee) guidelines on implementing the gender perspective into humanitarian projects.

Women constituted more than sixty-percent of this Qurbani project. Cultural traditions especially in conservative sect of the society in the camp do not allow women to interact with strangers, especially men. Keeping the fact that women without the presence of an adult male household member might have no one to facilitate their registration, RAHMA Pakistan particularly focused on identification and registration of the women-headed households by involving female volunteers in refugee camps for ensuring an equitable distribution of the project benefits. The identification and selection of the beneficiary households was made based on gender-disaggregated data collected with the cooperation of male and female volunteers in Azad Kashmir.

RAHMA is always awake to the fact, that being physically weaker and socially less empowered, women are more vulnerable to abuse and deprivation, especially in distribution of Food Items or Non-Food Items in humanitarian projects. Hence, RAHMA always makes sure that its projects are useful to the target community irrespective of gender. During meat distribution, RAHMA ensured that women-headed households receive their share in Qurbani meat, and that deserving women identified during the assessment process benefit from the project. RAHMA's careful identification process with the help of male and female volunteers and its distribution process helped achieve project targets effectively.

5) THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN

Pakistan has one of the highest rates of malnutrition among children in the world's low-income countries. Almost 40 percent of children under five in Pakistan are malnourished, as measured by being underweight for age. It is a fact that refugees have lost their livelihoods and opportunities of employment for them either inside or outside

the camps, are extremely scarce, therefore the chances of mal- and under-nourishment among these children are higher. The World Health Organisation and the United Nations Children Fund assessments also indicate high levels of malnutrition among displaced children under five. And, Pakistan's financial crisis, coupled with surge in food prices, place severe limitations to the Government's ability to respond to the needs of these children in terms of minimum essential levels of the right to food.

RAHMA Pakistan believes in the principle of entitlement of vulnerable children to adequate nutrition as a matter of right as enshrined in the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Though not particularly focused under this project, children make up more than 50 percent of the beneficiary population. The distribution of meat has provided the beneficiary households with a valuable source towards addressing the nutrition needs of this particularly vulnerable group in terms of protein-energy nutrition for one complete week.

6) COMMENTS ON THE PROJECT ACCOUNTS

RAHMA Pakistan received the total amount in PKR, 360,000 from RAHMA Norway and spent all of funds on Qurbani for refugees living in Gulpur camp, AJK for the year 2010.



Qurbani Meat is being chopped under RAHMA surveillance



Beneficiaries after being benefited with Qurbani meat



Innocent girl holding a packet of Qurbani meat



Packed meat in a bag printed with RAHMA emblem, in background meat is being chopped.