

Deputy Speaker PA inaugurates Muslim Aid-PMWO plasmapheresis centre at Allam Iqbal Medical College Medals, certificates given away in recognition to the services in health sector

Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly, Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan inaugurated Muslim Aid PMWO plasmapheresis centre at Allam Iqbal Medical College here on Monday. Addressing the ceremony, he said Muslim Aid PMWO plasmapheresis project was a milestone in the health sector and was a great step forward to serve humanity. Muslim Aid Country Director Khobaib A Vahedy, Chairman Lt. Gen. (R) Khalid Latif Moghal, Secretary Board of Trustee, Syed M Tanzeem Wasti, Pakistan Myasthenia Welfare Organisation (PMWO) Founder Khalid Zia, Chairman PMWO Prof. Tariq, Principal Allama Iqbal Medical College, Prof. Dr. Javid Akram, President PMDC, Prof. Syed Sibt-ul-Husnain, Prof. Noshin Wasim Yousuf and officials of Jinnah hospital were also present on the occasion.

Officials of Muslim Aid (UK based NGO) and PMWO gave a detailed briefing about the Muslim Aid PMWO plasmapheresis centre, informing that plasmapheresis was a unique project to separate blood cells from plasma and return of these blood cells to the body's circulation, diluted with fresh plasma or substitute.

While addressing the function, Muslim Aid Country Director Khobaib A Vahedy said Muslim Aid and Pakistan Myasthenia Welfare Organisation (PMWO) are working together since 2003 in the health field for the betterment of ailing humanity. We



Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly, Secretary General BoT and Country Director Muslim Aid inaugurating plasmapheresis centre at Jinnah hospital, Lahore.

can pool our financial and technical resources through such collaborations, which will give better and optimum results. Mr. Vahedy briefed the participants about Muslim Aid activities in the various sectors in the country in general and health sector in particular.



He said that Muslim Aid and PMWO mobile plasmapheresis project is a unique and first of its kind in South Asia. This project is mobile, speedy and reliable for on spot treatment of the patients. This project includes free of cost diagnostic facility and consultation with plasmapheresis kits for deserving patients, he added.

With the support of Muslim Aid, PMWO is providing comprehensive treatment of Myasthenia Gravis patients, which include medicines, plasmapheresis

and thymectomy. For this purpose Muslim Aid has provided mobile ambulances and plasmapheresis equipment to PIMS hospital Islamabad and plasmapheresis equipment to Jinnah hospital Lahore, he added.

He also informed that Muslim Aid and PMWO will start plasmapheresis and thymectomy services in the hospitals of Southern Punjab. Dera Ismail Khan, Rahim Yar Khan and Bahawalpur are our targeted areas where we have planned to initiate such kind of projects.

Founder PMWO, Khalid Zia told about the services and treatment which mobile plasmapheresis provides. He briefed about the diseases which mobile plasmapheresis cures include Myasthenia Gravis (MG), Guillian Barre Syndrome (GBS), and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP), Immune Trombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Good Pasture's Syndrome (GS), Hyper Cholestolemia and Connective Tissues Disorder.

While appreciating the role of Muslim

Aid and PMWO, Prof. Dr. Javid Akram, Principal Allama Iqbal Medical College said that the organisations should continue to play the role in the provision of health facilities to the poor and needy people of the country.

In the end, Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly, Rana Mashood Ahmad

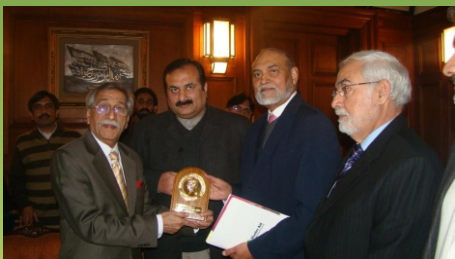


Khan appreciated the project and the activities of Muslim Aid-PMWO for health sector and stressed the need to initiate such projects to provide better health facilities to masses. He also gave away medals and certificates to Muslim Aid Chairman Lt. Gen (R) Khalid Latif Moghal, Country Director Khobaib A Vahedy, PMWO founder Khalid Zia, Prof. Dr. Javid Akram,

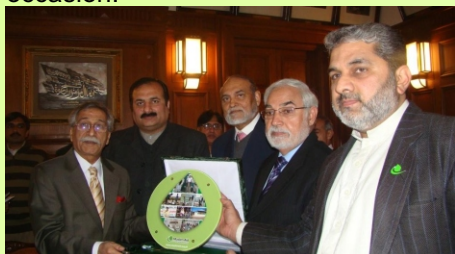
Muhammad Nasrullah, Muhammad Tariq, Malik Asif Hamayun and Sanar-Rahman in recognition to their services in health sector.

Speaker Punjab Assembly calls on Secretary General Muslim Aid

Speaker Punjab Assembly (PA) Rana Muhammad Iqbal here met Syed Muhammad Tanzeem Wasti Secretary



General Board of Trustee Muslim Aid UK. Rana Muhammad Mushood Deputy Speaker of the Assembly was also present on the occasion. The Speaker told the UK guest of performance of the Assembly on the occasion. Wasti presented a shield to the Speaker in the meeting. Country Director Muslim Aid Khobaib A Wahedy, Chairman Lt. Gen (r) Khalid Latif Moghal, Programme Manager Moezuddin and Media & Communication Officer M Haseeb Khalid were also present on the occasion.



Fun day for childcare centre girls

A group of Muslim Aid childcare centre girls immensely enjoyed a trip to the Pakistan Monument and Islamabad zoo that was arranged by 'Muslim Aid Get to Stars Project officials'.



The children, while engaging themselves in recreational activities in the company of their teachers and the organisers, seemed to be very joyous. They took swings and skipped here and there like little butterflies, wearing colourful clothes.

The Muslim Aid childcare centre was established at Tarali with an aim to educate the child laborers. All these children living in the vicinity of Tarali are provided both modern as well as religious education at Muslim Aid Centre without any discrimination.



Rs 10.5m distributed under microfinance programme

An amount of Rs 10.5 million has been distributed among 1400 poor families across Rawalpindi, Chakwal and AJK under the 'Muslim Aid Islamic Microfinance Project'. This was stated by Muslim Aid Programme Manager,



Microfinance and Livelihood, Syed Moezuddin Kakakhail during a cheque disbursement ceremony held here in Rawalpindi on Friday.

He said that Muslim Aid has started the use of financing techniques in development and providing Islamic microfinance. The organisation has provided interest-free microloans ranging from PKR 10,000 to PKR 33,000 to encourage entrepreneurship and get sustainability. Muslim Aid, is helping some of the poorest communities and those worst affected by the recession to become economically self-sufficient by providing interest-free loans, he said. While explaining the Muslim Aid Islamic Microfinance, he said that our project refrain borrowers from a debt trap and make them self-sufficient. Our micro-financing is not socially destructive, as it is purely based on interest-free Islamic values. We are using our financing techniques in development and uplift of the poor. Syed Moezuddin said that In Pakistan

most microfinance schemes charge high rates of interest which is religiously unacceptable for Muslims, but also makes them unstable. "Our Sarah-compliant microfinance project not only provides the capital to help people set up their own businesses but also provides essential training and support to ensure the success of these ventures."

"We are currently working with Akhuwat to provide loans to vulnerable people across Rawalpindi, Chakwal and AJK, but are looking to expand to other parts of the country in the near future. We are very proud that over 25 per cent of our beneficiaries of this project are women and many are widows who are now supporting their entire family through their businesses," he said.



Programme Officer, Raja Shahid Nawaz said that in a time of economic uncertainty Muslim Aid has shown that appropriate finance solutions can have a life-changing effect on some of the poorest people of our society. Our Islamic microfinance project is benefitting men and women, young and old helping them to overcome poverty, he added.

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