



Bismillahirrahman Nirraheem

SRI LANKA MUSLIM REFUGEE ASSISTANCE (UK)

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QURBAN PROJECT 2017

(Currency stated in Rupees)

I hereby submit my Report in respect of Qurban meat distributed during Haj festival in 2017.

1. FUNDS

The SLMRA(UK) deposited Rs. 200,000/- to the Bank of Ceylon, Wellawatte Branch Account on 23.8.2017.

Funds utilized were as follows.

SLMRA(UK) Account at Bank of Ceylon	203,030.00
Local Contribution – Falih Caffoor	30,000.00

Contributions from Canada:-

(Shares represent a person from each family)

A.G.A. Barrie (9 shares)	60,390.00
Ifthikar Hassan (4 shares)	26,840.00
Azad Hanid (3 shares)	20,130.00
Ziard Deen (6 shares)	40,260.00
Rizwan Adnan (4 shares)	26,840.00
Shiraz Hameed (1 share)	6,710.00
Abdul Kareem (2 shares)	13,420.00
Amjad Husain (5 shares)	33,550.00
Majid Sheikh (7 shares)	46,970.00
Aqif Hassen (5 shares)	33,550.00
Hammad Kaleem (7 shares)	46,970.00
Fawzdeen (28 shares)	187,880.00
Adam Jahan (7 shares)	46,970.00
Imthyaz Hameed (4 shares)	26,840.00
Mansoor Samsudeen (10 shares)	67,100.00
Ashfaque Nalim (6 shares)	40,260.00
Mohamed Iqbal Merchant (14 shares)	93,940.00
Rizwana Nihar (4 shares)	26,840.00
Anees Gafoor (3 shares)	20,130.00
Firaz Azeez (3 shares)	20,130.00
Dr. Basel Bari (7 shares)	46,970.00
Rimzy Kuthuibdeen (7 shares)	46,970.00
Shiraz Mohideen (4 shares)	26,840.00
Mohamed Afzalally (11 shares)	73,810.00

Total

1,313,340.00

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It was decided to distribute meat mostly to ethnic refugees and others, preferably to widows and the disabled.

The SLMRA Qurban Appeal and the Newsletter were not published this year as well. The usual local contributors in the past have moved away from our project. The SLMRA's contributions too have reduced by more than 50%. However, the large contributions from Canada have compensated for the shortfall, thanks to Mr. A.G.A. Barrie.

In 2011 the contributions from Canada, initiated by Mr. A.G.A. Barrie, commenced with 316,500/-, which increased annually and reached a record figure of 856,653/- in 2016. This year the contributions increased to 1,080,310/-.

2. CRITERIA FOR DISTRIBUTION

It was decided to distribute Qurban meat as follows, with the availability of funds.

- To distribute 1 kg. per family to cover a larger number of families.
- To cover the border villages in the Polonnaruwa District.
- To cover IDPs who had returned to the Mannar District.
- To distribute to those affected in Mutur
- To distribute to Jaffna/Mannar Muslims in Medawachchiya.
- To distribute to IDPs in the Jaffna Town and other areas in the District.
- To distribute to IDP's in Anuradhapura and the needy in villages closeby.

3. DISTRIBUTION

The distribution of Qurban meat was carried out on two days, after Eid Festival prayers on 2.9.2017 and the day after. Each family was given about 1 kg. of meat. Our contacts were entrusted with the distribution and it was not possible for me to be present.

(a) Mannar/Anuradhapura Districts

The job was entrusted to S.M. Sahabdeen. The meat packs of about 1 kg. each were distributed to each family in the following villages.

	<u>Families</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Rasoolputhuveli, Mannar	98	1	} 350,000.00
Swarnapuri, Mannar	140)	2	
Wattakandal, Mannar	60)		
Nachchaduwa, Anuradhapura	200	2	
Wannikudawewa, Galgamuwa	50	1	
Pattiwela, Galewala	85	1	
<u>Total</u>	<u>633</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>350,000.00</u>

The villages in Mannar are with IDPs who have returned after the ethnic war ended in 2009. The IDPs in Mannar District have benefited from housing and other facilities, due to a Minister and parliamentarians who have their vote base there. There are many organizations too which distribute Zakat and Qurban, and we need to select those who do not benefit by them. The 'Thalaivar' of Rasoolputhuveli, Shukoor, is known to me. A group led by him occupied the Irrigation Dept. premises in Galgamuwa soon after being evicted by the LTTE in 1990. They were requested to vacate later, and they moved to Nochchiyagama. The SLMRA have assisted them in these locations. After 2009 they returned to their homeland. Those in Galgamuwa and Galewala are needy and poor families. When the refugees from Jaffna and Mannar Districts were evicted by the LTTE, many came to the Anuradhapura District, some occupied areas surrounding the Nachchaduwa tank. They worked in the vegetable and chilli plantations. After waiting for many years, they have settled down and are living amicably with the local villagers.

(b) Polonnaruwa District

The job was entrusted to S.H.M. Ansar. The distribution was arranged through the Mosques, and 1 kg. of meat per family was distributed to needy families.. Mr. Ansar gave funds to 6 Mosques, to select the families and arrange the distribution of Qurban meat.

	<u>Families</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Rifai Jummah Mosque, Rifaipura	72	1	50,000.00
Jamiul Hilal Jummah Mosque, Alhilalpara	75	1	50,000.00
Grand Mosque, Tambala	65	1	50,000.00
Green Mosque, Muslim Colony	60	1	50,000.00
Masjidulsaliheen Jummah Mosque, Hijra Mawatha	60	1	50,000.00
Mohideen Jumma Mosque, Nugagahadammana	60	1	50,000.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>300,000.00</u>

(c) Medawachchiya

The 'Thalaivar' at Crow Island camp, Colombo, K.M.Kamaldeen, requested Qurban distribution, but I declined as the cost of bulls in Colombo were very high and not within our budget. He then requested distribution to **33 families** in Medawachchiya from Jaffna and Mannar, who have settled down there. A **bull** was purchased for **Rs. 50,000/-**, including expenses, and the meat was divided into packs of 1.25 kg. each, and distributed.

(d) **Mutur**

The assistance of Mr. K.M.H. Akbar was sought. A total of **5 bulls** costing **Rs. 250,000/-** (including expenses) were selected and slaughtered. The distribution of **350 kg. meat** to widows and needy was arranged by the Co-ordinating Centre for Community Development in Mutur. The meat was packeted into parcels of 1 kg. each and distributed to each family through the mosques as follows.

Sirajiya Mosque	200 families
Nooraniya Mosque	100
Arafa Nagar Mosque	<u>50</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>350 families</u>

(e) **Jaffna District**

The distribution of Qurban meat in the Jaffna District of 1 kg. for each family was arranged by M.S. Raheem of the YMMA. The bulls were slaughtered at one point and transported to the following locations for distribution.

	<u>Families</u>	<u>Bulls</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Moor Street, Jaffna	200	}	320,000.00
Pommaveli, Jaffna	96		
Chavakachcheri	23		
Mankumban	20		
Point Pedro	15		
Nainativu	36		
<u>Total</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>320,000.00</u>

4. **SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS**

Mannar/Anuradhapura Districts – 7 Bulls		350,000.00
Polonnaruwa District – 6 Bulls		300,000.00
Medawachchiya – 1 Bull		50,000.00
Mutur District – 5 Bulls		250,000.00
Jaffna District - 8 Bulls	320,000.00	
Transport and Expenses	<u>43,340.00</u>	363,340.00
<u>Total</u>		<u>1,313,340.00</u> =====

Photographs taken at various places are shown in the Annex. I am not satisfied with their quality, since they are not positioned well and are not clear. Nowadays mobile phones are used to take photos and not cameras as in the past.

5. **COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS**

The collection of funds and distribution of Qurban meat this year covered 1,798 families, as compared to 2,295 families in 2016. The SLMRA contributions were less than 50% as compared to the previous year. The larger funds from Canada were helpful, and the total spent was Rs. 1,313,340/- as compared to Rs. 1,455,000/- in 2016, mainly due to the lower SLMRA contribution and local contributors keeping away this year. The cost of bulls were higher, thereby the number of families was lower.

The cost of bulls in Colombo were much higher than those in the outstations. The number of total bulls slaughtered was 27 as compared to 31 in 2016. . This year the demand for bulls was greater, but we managed to obtain them within our budget.

The LTTE was defeated in May 2009, and there were high hopes that the Muslim IDPs will return to their homelands within a short time. They expected assistance from the Govt. to be resettled, but they were disappointed. After discussions with the Minister in charge, some progress has been made. Hon. Mr. Rishard Bathiudeen hails from Mannar and he is looking after the Mannar Muslims, since his vote base is in this District. Many countries have contributed towards housing in Mannar. In this respect the Jaffna Muslims are handicapped, as they do not have a leader to resolve the problems of the Jaffna IDPs. After their eviction by the LTTE in 1990, they are scattered all over, and the Jaffna Muslims have become a forgotten people. However, Mr. M.S. Raheem of the YMMA, who hails from Jaffna, by his own efforts, has had discussions with Hon. D.M. Swaminathan and other officials, and obtained commitments of funds and housing for the Jaffna IDPs. The two leading Muslim schools in Jaffna. Osmania for boys and Khadija for girls, are undergoing repairs to accommodate the Muslims students who have returned to Jaffna.

Inshah Allah, with the Minister in charge for Rehabilitation and Resettlement, who is a level headed Tamil, it is hoped that he will resolve the problems of the Muslim IDPs. Now there is a **Muslim Minister for Muslim Affairs**, and we hope that he too will assist in resolving the problems of the Muslim IDPs.

In concluding, I wish to say that I have handled the Qurban projects annually for the SLMRA(UK) since 1994, the pioneering project was elaborated in the Qurban Report for 2016. We have done very well but in recent years their enthusiasm has been waning, and they have to decide their future *vs-a-vis* the IDPs problems getting resolved. This year was quite successful with the contributions from Canada with Mr. A.G.A. Barrie's enthusiasm and support.

M. ALI AZEEZ
Co-ordinator for SLMRA(UK) in Sri Lanka

24th September 2017.

Appendix



Rasoolputhveli, Mannar. 'Thalaivar' Shukoor at left



Rasoolputhveli, Mannar



Swarnapuri, Mannar



Swarnapuri, Mannar



Wannikudawewa, Galgamuwa



Wannikudawewa, Galagamuw



Wattakandal, Mannar



Jaffna District: Qurban packs for distribution



Pommavali, Jaffna



Sivala Palli, Moor Street, Jaffna



Chavakachcheri, Jaffna



Chavakachcheri, Jaffna



Point Pedro, Jaffna



Nainativu, Jaffna: Qurban packs transported by boat



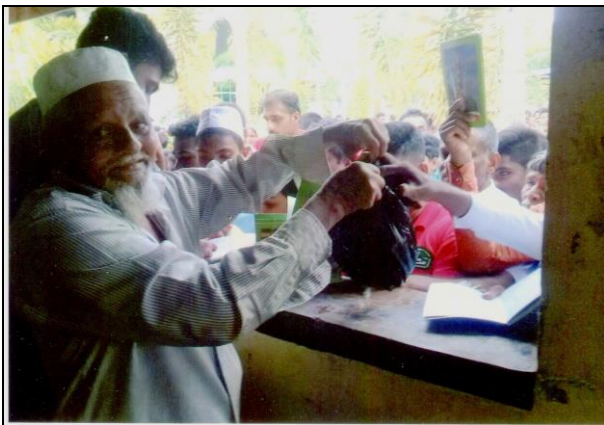
Mankumban, Jaffna



Mankumban, Jaffna



Mankumban Mosque, Jaffna



Alhilalpur, Polonnaruwa



Rifaipura, Polonnaruwa