



# SHELTER-REPORT

Winter 2018



Shelter Now Germany e.V. Waisenhausdamm 4 38100 Braunschweig

**Shelter Now Germany e.V.**

Waisenhausdamm 4  
38100 Braunschweig

fon + 49 (0) 531 88 53 95 7  
fax + 49 (0) 531 88 53 95 9

info@shelter.de  
www.shelter.de

*Dear Friends and Partners of Shelter Now*

*The beauty of Afghanistan – Impressions from a journey*

*You will find out just how beautiful this country is in our current Shelter Report. But we are also very much aware of problematic aspects – for example internally displaced people escaping the famine caused by severe drought, or the impoverished and generally despised Chalou people group. We are doing all we can to help.*

*In Kurdistan we are seeking to resettle the Christians who had been driven out of Nineveh. They have great courage and our job is to support them.*

*Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas season,*

*Udo Stolte and the Shelter Team*



**Shelter Now – Rebuilding lives - Restoring hope!**

# SHELTER-Report

## Afghanistan's beauty – Impressions from a journey

Udo Stolte wrote the following report after his recent trip to Afghanistan:

*"Shelter Now has three locations in the country; Kabul, Faizabad and Herat, I was able to visit all three beginning with Faizabad. Due to the security situation it is often impossible to drive there.*

*On this occasion, however, it was safe. Our team leader Corey, two local staff members and myself drove to two remote villages. The journey took us along bumpy trails, some of which were river beds – through deep ravines and breathtaking scenery.*

*The landscape, the friendly villagers, their hospitality and their gratitude for the successful completion of the project, all rekindled my deep love for Afghanistan.*

*Amidst all the poverty, chaos and danger it has a fascinating beauty. In English we have a term for this phenomenon: The "SARS virus". For us this has nothing to do with the dangerous virus that was rampant some years ago, but has a new meaning, namely: "The Severe Afghanistan Return Syndrome". Most people who visit this country once are infected with a virus that compels them to come back again and again.*

*We were able to inspect a total of 13 projects during our trip. The projects concern drinking water, agriculture, education, training and more.*

*I was most impressed by our dental clinic. Young male and female dental students receive their training here. The clinic and university work closely together. The head of the faculty told me that three ministers in the Afghan Government had visited the clinic and were deeply impressed. In their opinion it is the best of its kind in the whole country.*

*I am unable to report on the many other projects we are carrying out but would like to draw your attention to the thousands of internally displaced persons, who have been streaming into Herat from neighbouring provinces. This year's extreme drought has forced them to leave their homelands. In the meantime the number affected is well over 20,000 families. We are cooperating with the UN World Food Programme (WFP). Two of our staff are distributing money, which enables them to go to the nearest town to buy basic necessities. But what will happen when winter sets in? This is where the beautiful picture of Afghanistan is much tarnished."*

*But such situations are the very reason we have been in this region for more than 35 years.*



Young orphans training to be electricians.



Money for refugees who fled drought in their homeland



Preschool children enjoying holistic lessons



Our international staff at a "mini retreat"

We have been working tirelessly to make this country more beautiful and a better place to live. We don't want its citizens to leave because they are afraid or see no perspective for their lives. This is a basic principle pervading all our activities.

I remember the beginning of our work and the origin of our name "Shelter Now". Our members of staff joined with Afghans in Pakistani refugee camps to construct many thousands of simple mud houses. In addition, we had food and medical projects running.

As the refugees returned to their ruined villages following the cessation of various outbreaks of hostility we again cooperated with the returnees to make roof material out of concrete in order to rebuild their houses. Meanwhile more than 70,000 houses have been built. This means that around half a million people are now living under 'our' roofs. Our low-tech precast concrete factories are still in operation.

At present we are maintaining 30 different projects.

### The "Helping Hands School" ...

This school should by now be located a new district of the city and be subject to a new concept. Unfortunately some of our ambitious plans have had to be postponed for security reasons. The school is still in the old building, but we have been able to realise some of our plans. For example, three of the seven members of our teaching staff have now received supplementary training and are able to teach according to the totally new methods. This holistic form of learning is so enjoyable for the school children that the school's popularity is growing. Many parents want to register their children with us. If we had the space we could take in almost 200 pupils instead of the current 120. Moreover we have set up a pre-school. I was allowed to attend a class and was enthused by what I saw.

During the winter break the three teachers will go through the second stage of their further training, and the four new colleagues will begin stage one.

### "Mini-Retreat" - short break for our teams

*Our workers from Herat, Faizabad and Kabul were able to take a short break of three days in Herat. We had a powerful time together with encouraging messages from Pastor Fred from Austria, wonderful music, singing together, sharing stories and, of course, delicious Afghan food. I have to say how proud I am of our international staff. They can now return to their difficult posts with renewed strength.*



### Chalou

*"Back in Kabul I visited a Chalou Camp with Dieter from Germany and our Afghan project director.*

*"Chalou" is the name of a people group which is generally looked down on. They live in the midst of the city in a slum! They are condemned to vegetate in total poverty and without any chance of getting employment. They try to somehow earn money in various activities like collecting rubbish, begging, or some women read palms. I am again appalled at such poverty."*

The Chalou look different to other Afghan people and there is very little certain knowledge about who they are. We have been researching for several years to find out which people group they belong to and why they are so despised. Meanwhile it emerges that they most likely belong to the groups we used to call gypsies – that is to the Roma or maybe Sinti people. Some behaviour patterns indicate this. I asked some of them to converse in their own language. I will send the recordings to a few experts and see what emerges.

The Chalou like us. They have noticed for many years now that we don't look down on them but rather seek to help them wherever we can. We have often supplied them with winter aid and hope that we can now do so again this winter. First though we are planning to provide them with drinking water by drilling a deep well in their camp.

### Food Distribution Saves Lives

As I write this we just got two project applications: The first is food for the Chalou in the above mentioned camp. The second is food aid for Kuchi nomads. We want to feed 1,600 families through the winter. This will cost us 70,000 euros of which we already have 23,000

euros. We require 45 euros for each family. We need your help.

If you want to be part of the Winter Aid project please donate to Project No. 6000 "Winter Aid". Maybe these impoverished people can share our Christmas joy this year.

### Nineveh – Christians Return Home

Four years ago the terrorists of the so called Islamic State drove out millions of people in Syria and Iraq. Tens of thousands were brutally murdered. Now many are returning to their ancestral homeland. Among them are Christians from Nineveh. Generous funding from the German organisation "Hilfsaktion Märtyrerkirche" (Aid Relief Church of the Martyrs) enabled us to distribute foodstuffs to 220 families. This action was not without danger due to the presence of some scattered IS murderers in the area. In addition, Shiite neighbours had stolen the property of Christians, occupied their houses and partially destroyed them. In this current climate of fear and mistrust, daring to make a new start is extremely hard and requires much courage and determination. We hope that these Christians can once again spend Christmas in peace in their homeland. We want to remember them particularly at this time.

*On my journey I was allowed to see great gratitude in many Afghan eyes.*

*With your help we have been able to make the life of many Afghans more pleasant and meaningful and give them hope and a perspective for their future. My sincere thanks.*

*We trust you and your families will have a blessed Christmas and New Year*

*Best wishes*

*Udo Stolte*

Wem helfen?	Was tun?	Wie viel Euro?	Projekt
Chalou or Kuchi	Food for one family	45,--	„Winter aid“ / 6000
Chalou or Kuchi	Food for 4 families	180,--	„Winter aid“ / 6000
Poor families in Afghanistan	Long term drinking water for a family	57,--	„Well“ / 6402
Poor families in Afghanistan	Long term drinking water for a large family	280,--	„Well“ / 6402
Poor families in Afghanistan	Long term drinking water for 20-30 families	upwards of 1 200,--	„Well donation“ / 6402

**Spendenkonto Schweiz** Shelter Now Germany e.V. Postfinance Bank Kto. 60-798660-9  
BIC (SWIFT): POFICHBEXXX IBAN: CH61 0900 0000 6079 8660 9

**European account details** Shelter Now Germany e.V. NORD / LB Hannover Kto. 25 23 058  
SWIFT: NOLADE2H IBAN: DE65 2505 0000 0002 5230 58

SEPA-Überweisung/Zahlschein

**Für Überweisungen in Deutschland, in andere EU-/EWR-Staaten und in die Schweiz in Euro.**  
Überweisender trägt Entgelte und Auslagen bei seinem Kreditinstitut; Begünstigter trägt die übrigen Entgelte und Auslagen.  
Bitte Meldepflicht gemäß Außenwirtschaftsverordnung beachten!

IBAN des Auftraggebers

**Beleg/Quittung für den Auftraggeber**

Begünstigter:  
**SHELTER NOW GERMANY E.V.**

IBAN des Begünstigten:  
**DE65 250500000002523058**

Kreditinstitut des Begünstigten:  
  
Euro

Auftraggeber/Einzahler:

Verwendungszweck:  
**Abzugsfähige Spende**  
Bestätigung zur Vorlage beim Finanzamt

Bei Bareinzahlung Empfängerbestätigung des annehmenden Kreditinstituts

Angaben zum Zahlungsempfänger: Name, Vorname/Firma (max. 27 Stellen, bei maschineller Beschriftung max. 35 Stellen)

**SHELTER NOW GERMANY E.V., BRAUNSCHWEIG**

IBAN  
**DE 65 2505 0000 0002 5230 58**

BIC des Kreditinstituts (8 oder 11 Stellen)  
**NOLADE2H**

Betrag: Euro, Cent

Kunden-Referenznummer - Verwendungszweck, ggf. Name und Anschrift des Überweisenden (nur für Begünstigten)

noch Verwendungszweck (insgesamt max. 2 Zeilen à 27 Stellen, bei maschineller Beschriftung max. 2 Zeilen à 35 Stellen)

Angaben zum Kontoinhaber: Name, Vorname/Firma, Ort (max. 27 Stellen, keine Straßen- oder Postfachangaben)

IBAN

06

Datum

Unterschrift(en)

**SPENDE**