

SHELTER-REPORT

November 2022



Happy - girls and boys in new school in Kabul

Happy - Young women in rehabilitation center, Kurdistan

Desperate - Starving Families in Afghanistan



SHELTER

Shelter Now — Rebuilding Lives and Restoring Hope

39 Years of Humanitarian Work in the Near and Middle East www.shelter.de



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What moves us!

"Zhian" means "life" – "Young women find their way back to life here."

That's how a senior Yezidi in Kurdistan put it at the opening of our Women's Center last year. Teenage girls and young women - persecuted and former slaves of the Islamic State - have found a home here, and they love it.

Our colleague Andreas Ziehr had brought some high quality sewing machines to the center with a group. Now he has visited it again and was impressed. He writes: "...One of the women (photo above right) had successfully completed a sewing course at the center. In the meantime she has started her own business in the camp and runs a small sewing shop there.

Through her independent work, she was already able to expand her shelter with a solid roof including

isolation. A nice example of helping people to help themselves! The new Singer sewing machine that we brought with us helps to further advance her business. She was very grateful - and we were even happier to see that the help is well received and sustainable."

Azzizah (name changed), a young woman from the center puts it this way: "Every time I am at the Zhiyan Center, I am overwhelmed by the atmosphere of love. It means so much to me to feel real love here. Before, I had nowhere to share my true feelings. Now I feel safe and can say what I am going through and what I feel in my heart. Now that I have learned all these things at the center, I feel a strong desire to help others learn how to speak from their hearts..."



Others say:

"Since the first day I came to the center, I feel so happy."

"I have learned many new skills in the jewelry and makeup classes. I enjoy learning and hope to use these skills to improve my life."

"The explanations [in the support group] about the "black dog" of depression and anxiety really helped me understand how to respond better when I recognize that these feelings are haunting me."



Happy are also the 86 girls and 64 boys in our primary school in Kabul/Afghanistan...

...because they have moved with the school - and into beautiful new rooms: a former restaurant. They finally have four classrooms and enough small adjoining rooms - and a beautiful playground.

Thus, a long-held vision is taking shape: For years we have been in the process of transforming our primary school into a "Montessori Learning Center". (Montessori pedagogy: teaching "from the child", or: "Help me to do it myself!").

First, the teachers attended appropriate training courses to acquire the Montessori pedagogy. The corresponding implementation was then regularly accompanied by qualified mentors during the lessons.

One problem was that the school was previously housed in a building that was far too small: two classrooms and a small teachers' room - not really suitable for Montessori learning methods. In

addition, teaching had to be done in two shifts: two classes in the morning, two in the afternoon.

Now we were finally able to move into a former restaurant, which is wonderfully suited for our purposes. It has enough space: four classrooms, a room for the teachers and other smaller rooms for group work, plus a beautiful, green courtyard (cover photo).

In the meantime, the next phase towards teaching "from the child" has begun. Montessori education is not about constant frontal teaching with memorization (as still common in Afghanistan), but about student-centered learning, self-directed activities, interactive learning, collaborative play.

These were two encouraging examples of how our projects are continuing - even under the much more difficult circumstances in Afghanistan. .



But in this country, the need is becoming greater and greater. More and more people are starving and are afraid that they will not survive the winter. Many are asking themselves the question: buy something to eat today or wood for heating? We have heard that some families are so desperate that they have already sold one of their children. We can hardly imagine here in western Europe how one can come to such decisions.

We thank you very much for your interest in our work and especially for your support, without which we could not do all this.

And we wish you all a happy Advent and Christmas season and a peaceful and healthy 2023.

**Your Udo Stolte
with the Shelter Team**

What we can do, however:

To help alleviate the life-threatening situation of some families through our - even perhaps small - contribution. In any case, we want to help wherever possible: providing winter aid, but also supporting our sustainable projects, such as education, dentistry, training, hygiene training, etc.

Picture: Distribution of survival packs to earthquake victims in Afghanistan.

We were also able to help many flood victims in Pakistan and thank our supporters Samaritans Purse and the Vineyard Church in Würzburg.



Your donation moves us

Support one of our projects

How much money?
Project

90 €
Winterrelief
6000

20 €
Montessori
Learningscentre
6201

95 €
Trauma-Centre
Baadre
8013

Project no.
Whom do I help?

One family

One child

A yezidi woman

What do I donate for:

Food for a month
and blankets

One month
schooleducation

A month support

Spendenkonto Schweiz

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