Relief Efforts 'PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V.'

Houses for Flood Affected People in SINDH

October 2011

The once-in-a-hundred-years flood in summer 2010 had destroyed 1.7 Million houses and taken away the basis of existence of 6 Million people. With a first relief action Hans Joachim Gerber from BORDESHOLM/GERMANY from his family's and friends' donations provided food for 20.000 people living in a relief camp in SEHWAN / SINDH organized by Pakistan Army.





Photos from the area SEHWAN – YOUSAF NAICH - KHAIRPUR NATHANSHAH October 2010





The impressions from the flooded areas caused him - together with realtives and friends - to establish the registered public charity PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. (Help for Selfhelp), to collect additional donations and to use the money for the construction of houses for flood affected people.

From October 7 – 24, 2011 Hans Joachim Gerber once more travelled to PAKISTAN, that after the 2010 flooding this summer again was afflicted with heavy monsun rains. Huge areas of SINDH, this year above all the southern areas of the province once again are flooded. Again the people in the region SEHWAN – YOUSAF NAICH - KHAIRPUR NATHANSHAH are affected, who still are living in makeshift shelters.

Aim of this trip to PAKISTAN was, to find again the people Hans Joachim Gerber had met in October 2010 in the flooded areas, to clearify what their living conditions are, and if needed to reconstruct or to construct houses fort them.

The following photos from the region SEHWAN – YOUSAF NAICH – KHAIRPUR NATHANSHAH show the situation of these flood affected people in October 2011.





Hamid Khan family's makeshift shelter

Punal Babars 'House'







Shelter for Rani, her husband and 4 children

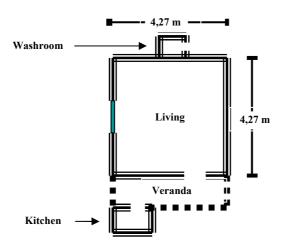
Shahadad Ali's family and 'house'

Supported by friends from PAKISTAN and the German aid organisation operating in PAKISTAN 'Aid for Refugees and Orphans' Hans Joachim Gerber surprisingly quick could find the families he one year back had met in the flooded areas. They all were living under very poor conditions, no houses, no water, no power – and above all no perspective. The once-in-a-hundred-years flood had taken away everthing. Funding for the reconstruction of their houses are not available. In very few instances relief was provided. Mostly the people are without any perspective and obviously scared from their struggle to survive.

At the end of the fact finding, decissions had to be made, whom to help with the limited resources. This was possible only by the assistance of 'respected people' from the villages, accompagnying pakistani friends and the project manager from 'Aid for Refugees and Orphans'. Last but not least the decissions were eased by the acceptance of many other suffering people, because the realized that help was given to those who deserved it most.

The donations from GERMANY, increased by additional money from pakistani donors lasted out for the construction of 13 houses, which are corresponding with the lifestyle habbits of the people in SINDH.

The houses consist of 1 room, that offers shelter in case it is raining or the temperatures are decreasing, that provides a safe place for the belongings and the rations, a veranda that provides shadow, a kitchen containing an open fireplace and finally a washroom. Each house will cost about 1.200,- Euro (1.650 US Dollar, 142.500 PakRps), including the expenses for all the materials, transportation and misc. (project manager etc.).



Modelhouse SINDH October 2011

Insistently it was explained that the relief has to be understood as help for selfhelp. Not only the benifiaciries will have to contribute with all their workforce, but their families and their neighbours as well, what was promissed by all of them.

On October 18, 2011 the representatives of 'PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V.' und 'Aid for Refugees and Orphans' in the German Embassy ISLAMABAD signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the construction of 13 houses.



Benjamin Schaeffer, Director 'Aid for Refugees and Orphans' und Hans Joachim Gerber, Chairman'PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. signing the MOU on 18 October 2011 in ISLAMABAD

Three days after the factfinding in SINDH, on site the delivery of materials already began. In the meantime the project manager confirmed that everybody is solidarily contributing to the works. End of November all the houses will be ready to move into.

As soon as further situation reports will be available, they will be published on this website.

PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. now through publications in German media and through lectures try to get additional donations aiming at the construction of another 10-15 houses in spring 2012.

In the above mentioned villages hundreds of families are still waiting for relief.



Yamin's SAYA School & Welfare Hospital MEER KOH

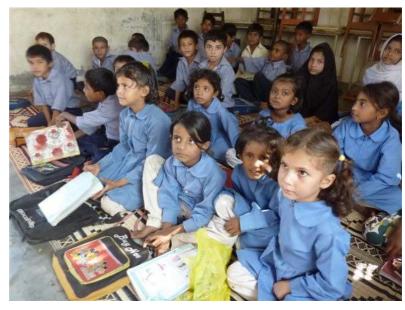
During Hans Joachim Gerber's stay in PAKISTAN he got to know about an initiative of a pakistani friend, Brigadier ® Tughral Yamin, who from his own financial resources had built and is running a school for children in VILLAGE MEER KOH.

150 students (many of them former street children, beggars and garbage pickers) receive schooling, learning material and school uniforms free of costs. In addition Brig ® Yain is financing a weekly consultation by a medical doctor from ISLAMABAD, that for the people of MEER KOH is the only medical care opportunity.



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Despite the exemplary commitment of all the family, Yamin SAYA School & Welfare Hospital MEER KOH are lacking many things. With a first donation PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. made a present of 150 pencils, colored pencils, rubbers and sharpeners and 5 white boards (total 225,- Euro).

PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. intends to in future support the Yamin family project with small but efficient donations.

Progress Report No 1 Yamin's SAYA School





Old and new white boards

On November 2, 2011 we received the information that the 5 white boards donated by PAKISTAN – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. were fixed in the classrooms of Yamin's SAYA School.

Easily to percieve that teachers and students enjoy the possibilities of the new teaching material.

PAKISTAN - Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V.

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Donation Account: Bordesholmer Sparkasse – Account Nr.: 155016538 – IBAN DE23210512750100079380, BIC NOLADE21BOR

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