

AAS-I Activities Report 2008

Introduction:

As it is known, founding of the Assyrian Aid Society in Iraq in 1991 was a result of the tragic conditions that our people gone through, and because of the economic embargo imposed on Iraq in general and the blockade imposed by the former regime on the northern region in particular, the bad economic situation, unemployment and poverty. As a result of these and other reasons, the idea of establishing the Assyrian Aid Society was necessary as a supportive society to our people, especially in the northern region of the country.

After the fall of Saddam regime, the liberation of Iraq 2003 and as a result of the bad political situation and security conditions in the center and southern areas, the migration of thousands of families to safer areas in Nineveh Plain and the northern regions, the Assyrian Aid Society provided the first support and assistance to those displaced and impoverished families in Nineveh Plain, where the relief teams of AASI started distributing medicines, foodstuffs, households and financial assistance in the areas of Nineveh Plain, Mosul , Kirkuk Baghdad and other areas of the country.

Because of the circumstances we have noted in the country, especially after the events of Oct. 2008 that happened in Mosul, all this led to the migration of thousands of families from Mosul to Duhok, Erbil and Nineveh Plain areas, in particular. As a result of these difficult conditions and the fall of many of martyrs of our people in Mosul, all this drew the attention of media from home and aboard to Nineveh Plain area, this led many humanitarian organizations, local and international, to provide support and assistance to those people, particularly those who have fled Mosul because of recent events of October 2008. AASI had an effective and recognized role in providing support and assistance to those families and to the families of martyrs through implementation many relief programs. Also we were able urge many humanitarian organizations to assist them, as well as through providing information and accurate statistics for the number of the displaced families to facilitate their work, in addition to arranging the visits of delegates coming from aboard to visit Nineveh Plain and meeting with displaced families and widows of martyrs.

DEPARTMENT: RELIEF & AID

As it is known, since the foundation of AAS in 1991 as a result to the tragic conditions of our people and the economic blockage imposed on the area, the Relief and Aid Dept. started its work which was confined to the following sides:

1. The Relief Team: to assist the destroyed villages and the Internally Displaced People (IDPs).
2. The Medical Team: to assist patients and needy people in the remote villages.
3. Financial Aid: to assist people who are in need for operations outside the country.
4. Supporting the Civil Societies Organizations.
5. Supporting the athletic activities.

1. PROJECTS:

1. Relief Program for Refugees & Needy Families:

Due to the bad security conditions in the cities of Baghdad, Mosul Basra, Anbar.....etc, the exodus of hundreds of families from the cities to the towns and villages in northern Iraq and the Nineveh Plain continued. As the number of displaced families is about five thousand families and the number continues to increase with time.

Hundreds of families left their homes to the northern villages and towns seeking security & peace, living with their mostly poor relatives and friends.

It was our humanitarian duty to support them when they were in a very need for any type of support; therefore, we have executed many relief programs in the last years.

AASI implemented the following relief programs in 2008:

- 1) A relief program for (1000) families in Dohuk City Center and surrounded areas (Zakho, Aqra, Sapna, Semel and Barwari Bala), by the support of SALT Foundation Inc\ Holland from the period Jan 2nd till Jan 20th, 2008.
- 2) A relief program for (800) families in Duhok City Center and surrounded areas (Semel and Mansoriya) by the support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (Stuttgart) / Germany for the period Feb 3rd till Feb 5th, 2008.
- 3) A relief program for (400) families in Mosul Governrate Alzinjili district, by the support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (Stuttgart) / Germany for the period Feb 8th till Feb 12th, 2008.
- 4) A relief program for (50) families in Duhok Governorate and surrounded areas (Sapna) by the support of Assyrian without Borders Organization from Sweden, for the period Aug 18th till Aug 22th, 2008.
- 5) A relief program for (54) families in Nineveh Plain and surrounded villages (Baqofa, Tellisquf, Karanjo and other areas) by the support of Assyrian Without Borders Organization from Sweden, for the period Aug 23th till Aug 25th, 2008.
- 6) A relief program for (68) families coming in cooperation with Qandeel Organization in Sep. 15th, 2008.
- 7) A relief program for (1400) families in Duhok governorate and surrounded areas for the IDP's coming from Mosul Governorate by the support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (Stuttgart) / Germany for the period Oct 1st till Oct 15th, 2008.
- 8) A relief program for (48) families in Duhok Governorate who came from Mosul after Oct. events in cooperation with Qandeel Organization in Oct 8th, 2008.
- 9) A relief program for (600) families in Nineveh Plain and surrounded villages (Alqush, Telkif, Ba'ashiqa, Merke, Bartella, Karemls and Baghdeda) by the support of AAS of America, ASS New Zealand and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (Stuttgart) / Germany for the period Oct 25th till Oct 30th, 2008.

- 10) A relief program for (600) families in Nineveh Plain and surrounded villages (Baghdeda, Bartella, Karemles, Telkif, Batnaye, Tellisquf, Baqufa and Alqush) by the support of SALT Foundation Inc. for the period Dec 17th till Dec 20th, 2008.
- 11) A relief program for (500) families in Nineveh Plain and surrounded villages (Tellisquf, Shekhan, Baqufa, Sharafiya, Alqush, Batnaye and Ba'ashiqa), In addition to Mosul Dam area in Duhok by the support of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (Stuttgart) / Germany for the period Dec 23th till Dec 30th, 2008.

It's worth mentioning that our society will continue implementing these programs for 2009 to help needy and refugee families including distributing essential aids.

Our society presents different types of aids to needy families in different areas, according to applications presented to our society.

FUNDING:

- AAS of America.
- AAS Australia.
- AAS New Zealand.
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (Stuttgart) / Germany.
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (Munich) / Germany.
- "Solidarity Group Tur Abdin and Northern Iraq" in Germany.
- Qandeel Organization, Sweden.
- SALT Foundation Inc., Holland.
- Assyrian without Borders from Sweden.

2. Medical and Therapeutic Aids:

AASI Pharmacies continue to offer their medical services to the people living in Nineveh Plain and Sarsing, at very low prices, and sometimes free of charge especially to needy people.

AASI has pharmacies in:

- Alqush
- Tellisquf
- Batnaye
- Karemles

In Sep. 2008, two of our pharmacies in Bartella and Baghdeda were closed. All their medicines were transferred to the other pharmacies in Nineveh Plain.

AASI donated some medicines to Azadi Hospital in Duhok Governorate and to Emergency Hospital in Erbil Governorate. These medicines were donations from the International Medical Corp. (IMC).

3. Aids:

AASI was able to help many people as:

1. Giving them financial aids, buying medicines to needy patients and sending some of them outside the country for treatment.
2. Helping poor families by giving them food materials.
3. Helping the injuries in Baghdad Governorate.
4. Helping the families of Martyrs in Nineveh Governorate (after the recent events in Mosul, Oct. 2008).
5. Helping some needy families to rehabilitate their houses.
6. Buying two water pumps to help the farmers for watering their farms.
7. Buying a pump for spraying insecticide for one farmer.

Supporting the Civil Society Organizations:

1. Assyrian Women Union:

Supporting the Assyrian Women Union in Duhok, Erbil and Nineveh Plain as follows:

- Continue supporting the Day Care Centers in Erbil and Duhok.
- Specifying a car from AASI to transport the children of Ramael Day Care in Duhok.
- Supporting the Assyrian Women Union in Duhok for holding a nursing session (for first aids) in Semel for one month.
- Supporting the Assyrian women Union in Duhok to rehabilitate their building.
- Reception for the delegates of the conference of the Assyrian Women Union and offering facilities for them.

2. Chaldoassyrian Youths and Students Union:

Supporting the Chaldoassyrian Youths and Students Union in Duhok, Erbil and Nineveh Plain as follows:

- Holding the annual acquaintance party for the students of Duhok University.
- Holding a charitable party as a fund raising for a patient from Ein Noni village.
- Holding Arbaello Football Championship in Erbil.
- Holding Martyr Ashur Football Championship in Sapna area in March.
- Holding Narsai David Football Championship for the students of the AASI Dormitories, with the participation of (22) teams. This Championship was held for Kha B'Nisan festivals.
- Holding Bakhitme Football Cubs Championship in Bakhitme village in June.
- Holding Martyr Anwar Football Championship in Barwari Bala Area in the middle of July.
- Holding Youth Football Championship in Sapna in July.
- Holding Martyr Zaya Football Championship, consisting of 10 teams, in Nahla area in Aug.
- Holding Martyr Samir football Championship in Deralok village in Aug.

3. Other Societies:

- Supporting the Cultural, Social and Athletic centers in their activities.
- Supporting April festivals.
- Supporting Ogen Manna Cultural Center in holding its cultural activities.

DEPARTMENT: CONSTRUCTION

PROJECTS:

1. Constructing the Chaldoassyrian Youths and Students Union building in Sharafiya village, funded by the Assyrian aid society of America. The project began on March and was finished in November 2008. The building is 300m², consisting of (4) rooms, reception, kitchen, toilet, garden and garage.
2. Rehabilitate Martyr Bodagh Hall in Bakhitme village by the support of Assyrian Aid Society-Iraq.

Funding:

The Chaldoassyrian Youths and Students Union building in Sharafiya village was funded by:

- The Assyrian Aid Society of America.
- Assyrian Aid Society of UK- Mr. Emanuel Kelaita.
- Mr. Clifford Kelaita from UK

DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION & TEACHING

1. Assyrian Primary Schools :

- AASI bears paying all transportation expenses of the Assyrian Primary Schools for (15) days of Sep. allover Iraq.
- Supporting Assyrian schools in Duhok, Erbil, Nineveh plain and Baghdad, including paying salaries to the lecturers, helping needy teachers, and providing some basic needs for the schools in addition to what the Ministry of Education is presenting to schools administrations, teachers and lectures.
- Sharing with Ministry of Education in covering the transportation expenses of all pupils and teachers in Duhok, Erbil
- Paying all the expenses of the Assyrian Schools in Nineveh Plain and Baghdad.
- Paying the expenses of Assyrian Teaching Committee in holding different types of educational activities. This support is for all the teaching season period.
- Paying the salaries of the cleaners in the Assyrian schools who are not officially employed by the government.
- Honoring all the superior pupils in all the Assyrian Primary Schools in special celebrations.
- Covering the shortage in the curriculums by printing (copying) hundreds of copies in our office.
- AASI undertakes the transportation expenses for the Primary schools in Duhok and Erbil.
- Building a store for Bakhitme Primary School in Bakhitme village.

2. Assyrian High Schools :

- AASI bears paying all transportation expenses of the Assyrian High Schools for the first two weeks of Sep. allover Iraq, as ministry of Education starts paying them from beginning of Oct.

- Paying monthly salaries to the lecturers, bonuses for teachers, plus pay salaries for the teachers who are not officially employed by the government.
- Sharing with Ministry of Education in covering the costs of transportation of the students and the teachers. This support is for all teaching season period.
- Paying transportation expenses of all the teachers and lecturers going from Duhok city center to the Assyrian High Schools outside the city (Zakho, Semel, Sarsing and Deralok high schools).
- Honoring all the superior students in all the schools in special celebrations.
- Sharing in covering the costs of training teachers in Duhok city.
- Covering the shortage in the curriculums by printing (copying) hundreds of copies in our office.
- Ministry of Education undertakes paying (\$16) monthly/ student as transportation expenses and AASI covers the rest.

3. Universities:

- Paying transportation expenses for the students of Languages college\ Assyrian Language Department in Baghdad
- Paying the salaries of one of the Assyrian Language teachers in Languages College in Baghdad.

4. Dormitories:

- AASI covers the expenses of Housing and Feeding (110) students, most of them are Internally Displaced People (IDPs), especially from Nineveh Plain. In addition to (5) teachers and (5) employers. All are (120), including the Assyrian Education students.
- All the students living in these Dorms are studying in High schools and Universities.
- Undertaking the expenses of Food, Medication, Comforts and also giving financial aids to some needy according to their request.

5. Assyrian Schools in Nineveh Plain:

AAS-I is supporting the Assyrian Education Process in Nineveh Plain through:

- Transporting students of the Assyrian Schools in Baghdada.
- Transporting students of the Assyrian Schools in Baretla.
- Transporting students of the Assyrian Schools in Telkif.
- Transporting students of the Assyrian Schools in Perozawa villages and suburbs to Einsifni.
- Paying monthly salaries to the lecturers in the Assyrian School in Baghdada.
- Paying monthly salaries to the lecturers in the Assyrian School in Baretla.
- AAS-I had distributed bonus to the teachers, lecturers and supervisors of the Assyrian Education Process in Nineveh Plain.

FUNDING:

- We depend in covering the teaching process costs mainly on AAS of America and AAS branches in Europe, Australia, Canada, and New Zealand
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany.
- SALT Foundation Inc. from Holland

Finally

Through this annual report, we, as Assyrian Aid Society of Iraq, would like to present our appreciation and thanks to all of our supporters (Assyrian Aid Societies worldwide, non-Assyrian Friends, Organizations and Churches), those who tried and are still trying to assist our Nation to stand and be powerful through its Education and Culture.

Assyrian Aid Society