

News from Afghanistan for Friends of Khorasan

UK Registered Charity No. 1081438

Issue No. 3 – Winter 2005

- **Founded in 1999 and initially funded personally by Seema Ghani, who lived and worked in London for 12 years. Seema returned to Afghanistan in May 2002 when Khorasan relocated from Pakistan to Kabul**
- **Some of the most needy children from Jalojai Refugee camp below - in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan are being cared for by Khorasan**
- **Sixteen children currently live at Khorasan House with Seema their ‘mother’**



Jalojai Refugee Camp former ‘home’ to Khorasan’s Children’

Thank you for helping some of these children to escape the life they had to lead in the Jalojai Refugee camp. If it was not for your support they would still be in a place like this.

Children, like the ones above, have all endured misery that most of us will never have to face; but with your help Khorasan’s children will stay secure.

We need to raise funds now for winter. Fuel prices have risen, so has rent. In the past year, the orphanage has had to move again to save money. Even so the rent in the new house is still high and set to rise again next year. So please help the children to remain in a safe and loving environment.

Successes over the past year – without you it would not have been possible!

Eid Celebrations



Our 'Mother' - Seema

Like the world over, Khorasan's children love holidays. During the last Eid they had the chance to go to Islamabad and Lahore. The Norwegian Refugee Council helped with transport and accommodation and they enjoyed trips to the zoo, walks in the hills and playing in the park.

Snow Comes Early in Kabul



Kabul Snow Time

Girl Power!

This year nine of the most talented children in Judo, 3 boys and 6 girls, qualified to take part in the International Sports Olympiad for World Peace in Lucknow, India. This is one of the biggest competitions in Asia for children. Girl power has certainly reached this part of Afghanistan. Khorasan's girls won 4 bronze medals between them! Last year two girls and one boy qualified for a joint Afghan Olympic Committee team from Afghanistan.

Many of Khorasan's supporters are particularly keen to ensure the children have opportunities to excel in this kind of activity. We all know the importance of sporting achievement in helping children to grow strong in every sense of the word – not just physically but mentally and emotionally too.



Rooftop dinner in Coco's Restaurant in Lahore – en route for the competition

Funding Priorities

The most urgent and pressing need and the most costly for Khorasan is shelter. The rent for Khorasan House has risen now to US\$ 950 per month meaning an annual outgoing of US\$11, 400. This may seem a lot of money for a poor country – but Kabul is suffering from raging inflation because of the thousands of internationals who are living there. Personnel working for the UN, the Military, NGOs and private contractors all want good housing and buildings for offices. This means that the local population, including charities like Khorasan, suffer by not being able to afford to pay the large sums that can be demanded by opportunistic landlords.

Due to the uncertain nature of rent rises and possibility of eventual eviction Khorasan aims to raise funds to buy land on which to build a house for the children. It will need to be big enough to allow for separate bathing and sleeping facilities for boys and girls. This is essential now the children are older.

Thank you!

Khorasan is profoundly grateful to individuals like you who make contributions.

Almost every penny goes to the children. Seema relies on her own resources and the only paid help are the staff who care for the children and the drivers who also help to provide security for the children.

Fund raising is done by volunteers. There are no Khorasan staff offices, expensive cars, international scale salaries or travel fees. The only costs are for publication and distribution of the newsletter and for the raw materials that are used to produce crafts for sale. Unlike many charities, when you donate to Khorasan you can be assured that your money goes directly to help give a child a decent life.

Khorasan tries to raise funds from major donors like the Afghan Women Leader's Fund but also relies on donations from Newsletter readers, occasional talks to supporters and entrepreneurial enterprises in Afghanistan.

Khorasan gives children a chance to live a life free of fear, where they can enjoy innocent play – a basic right for all children.



Mealtimes are always fun!

What you can do to help!

- ❖ Friends of Khorasan can help the children of Afghanistan by raising awareness of their suffering and assist those who are trying to improve their situation.
- ❖ Khorasan can only do its good work with the continued generosity of their friends who donate money to house, feed, clothe and educate children who are in desperate need.
- ❖ Khorasan's carers provide love, kindness and necessary discipline to assist the children to grow in to well-rounded and considerate adults.
- ❖ But they cannot do this without your help.
- ❖ Please continue to support **Khorasan –Afghanistan's children need you.**

Donations can be made to:-

Khorasan,
National Westminster Bank
520 High Road, Wembley, Middlesex
HA9 7BZ

Charity Name Khorasan

Account Number 77550366

Sort Code: 60-23-08

We also have a US dollar account.

For enquiries and more information on Khorasan and Afghanistan please

Email: Afghanlinks@aol.com

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Khorasan is a registered UK Charity - No. 1081438 and a Member of the British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group – (BAAG)

www.baag.org.uk

Khorasan's website is www.khorasan.org.uk

Khorasan's Objectives are

- **To relieve need and sickness amongst Afghan refugees – mainly women and children**
- **To provide health advice**
- **To provide accommodation and education for orphans resulting from the Afghan war years**



Khorasan – a children's home – not an institution

