



THE COPE TEAM AT THE RAMADAN IFTAR ON 11 MAY 2019

COPE  
EMPOWERING PEOPLE

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### COPE's Ramadan Iftar

Article by Izna Jamil

#### A Successful Launch of COPE's Water Project

COPE's Ramadan event boasted 500 generous guests, a grand auction, a lavish dessert table and engaging entertainers. The focus of the evening was to bring together friends, family and volunteers, all while launching COPE's Water Project in the Pakistan provinces of Sindh and Balochistan.

To kick off the entertainment for the evening there was a beautiful recitation by 3 young Quran Hafiz Brothers, Abdullah, Abdurrahmaan and Mohammed. This was followed by a soulful performance by Haji Mohammed Tariq Lohar, son of the Late Alam Lohar who recited a Naat and Hamd. We then listened to an insightful keynote speech delivered by former leader of the Respect Party, Salma Yaqoob. COPE's Chairperson, Nasrat Rafiq, then took the stage to deliver an informative and emotional speech which really tugged at heartstrings.

The auction was one of the highlights of the evening. The audience was enticed by the items, consisting of a mesmerizing water

well cake and an impressive T shirt, signed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan! Overall, the night ran smoothly and gave an amazing kick-start to the COPE Water Project, as a whopping £55,000 was raised. Well done COPE, and a huge thank you to the incredible volunteers, wonderful hosts and the brilliant sponsors. The event would not have been a success without you!



Above: Pakistan Prime Minister, Imran Khan signing a t-shirt for COPE's auction

### LAUNCH OF WATER FILTRATION PLANT IN KARACHI

COPE is proud to announce its latest project: building a water filtration plant in Karachi. This will be our first time working in an urban slum area, where water is available but often a dirty and dangerous supply, making people vulnerable

to disease and poor health. The project will be concentrated in slum areas, where people will also be trained on sanitation and hygiene. This will benefit 10's of thousands of people, and will give them a chance to not only have access to clean water, but also have an opportunity for a better quality of life.

### COPE TREKS THE PEAKS OF SNOWDON

Article by Ruphsana Nahar-Qayyum

Our team of volunteers is taking part in a challenging and rewarding opportunity to climb Snowdon which sits 1085m above sea level on 18th August!

Our volunteers have dedicated their efforts to raise money for a water filtration plant in Karachi. This is a wonderful opportunity to help bring relief and access to clean water.

Your support and kind actions will create ripples of hope and ease to the lives of others less well off. It connects us to others however far they are. Strengthening the bond of humanity creates stronger communities and a happier society for everyone. COPE wants to thank you sincerely for taking the opportunity to reach down to lift people up, your kindness is super contagious!

*"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."* - Winston Churchill



## PROJECTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### A BUSY QUARTER OF FUNDRAISING AND SERVICE DELIVERY



This last quarter has seen a busy few months of fundraising and service delivery. We cannot express how proud we are of our donors, volunteers and sponsors for our progress during the last few months. All targets have been exceeded and we are simply delighted with the way COPE is growing. Since our re-launch 7 months ago, 31,710 people have benefited directly from our work. We are truly humbled by the response and support that we have received.

### WATER PROJECT

Our water project in the rural areas of Sindh and Balochistan is currently thriving. We have had a productive quarter, with continuous donations pouring in for the cause. To date, 143 Water Pumps have been built, benefiting not only households but surrounding areas; 10 manual water wells have been funded and also a Solar Water Station, with 8 more solar Water Stations in process. Such water facilities are a complete luxury in the barren, dry areas of Gadap, and the sheer delight of the villagers is evident from their faces. It is a very rewarding feeling to see those whose lives have been changed by the clean water they now have access to.

Head over to our YouTube channel to see a video of the Solar Water Station in action.

### BALOCHISTAN MOSQUE

In order to fully utilise the last 10 days of Ramadan, COPE decided to fund the building of a Mosque in Balochistan. The current Mosque was in ruins, and the structure was unsafe and lacked the necessary facilities needed for place of worship. £6500 was raised within 2 and a half days, which

enabled us to give the go ahead for the new mosque. The construction is expected to be complete by the end of October this year, and we will keep you fully updated on how it is coming along.



Above: Blueprint of the COPE Mosque in Balochistan.

### FOOD PACKS

Before Ramadan began, we had a fundraiser for food packs. These consisted of flour, rice, sugar, cooking oil, lentils, gram flour, dates, Rook Afza, salt, spices and a matchbox. These necessary items were enough to feed a family of 5 during the entire month of Ramadan. In total, we funded 125 food packs. The superb support from donors and the gratitude expressed by the poor recipients of the food packs, has inspired and motivated us to fund an even larger number next year.

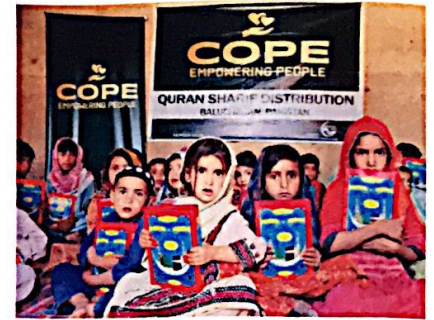


Above: Poor People came to collect their food packs

### QURAN DISTRIBUTION

During Ramadan, COPE undertook a fundraiser to raise money to fund 500 Qurans for distribution in the area of Balochistan. The need was identified and COPE were asked to help with the campaign as mosques and schools in the area relied on sharing one Quran between 7-10 people and these were often in a very worn condition. The target of 500 Qurans set, was almost immediately exceeded, with a total of 1100 Qurans being funded. The magnificent response was overwhelming.

Below: the children were over the moon with the brand new Qurans that they received.



### YOUTH CORNER

**Contribution by Aisha Rafiq, Age 12** On the 11th of May 2019, COPE had its Ramadan Iftar charity event! It was an amazing night because we earned a lot of money for the poor people and we had a lot of generous donations. As a COPE volunteer my role was an Usher and I had to direct the visitors to their tables. It was a fabulous and new experience. Also, it was an amazing time to meet new people. We raised £55000 from our dinner to support our charity. The audience was multicultural and everyone took part. I would say that the night was wonderful and I am proud to be part of a hardworking, dedicated team.

**Contribution by Hashim Ali, Age 8** On Saturday, my family and I are going to Barry Island in Wales on a coach with COPE. My mummy and daddy say it's a beautiful beach with a pleasure park. We have never been there before, so it will be our first time. We are very excited and we are counting down the days. My little sister wants to build a big sandcastle on the beach and collect sea shells. My little brother can't wait to go into the water and have a swim. But I don't think he will be allowed to go too far. I can't wait to get into the water too and splash my brothers and daddy. It's going to be so much fun.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 1) 3rd August – Beach trip to Barry Island
- 2) 18th August – Snowdon Mountain Climb
- 3) Ladies Night – December 2019
- 4) Karachi field trip- Nov 2019

### Stay in touch....

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