

Charity Registration Number: 1027522

(Date registered - 27th October 1993)

1KURDISTAN CHILDRENS FUND

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT For the year ended 31st March 2013

The Trustees present their Annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013. In it we highlight the help and support that we have given to children in need in Kurdistan during this twelve-month period.

We also want to thank those people who have sent in donations as without these we cannot help the children in Kurdistan.

Kaziwas is the name given to Childrens Cultural Centres for children from 6 to 15 years of age from poor families, opened and run by KSC. The Youth centres also opened and run by KSC are for youths between 16 and 30 years of age.

Objectives of the Trust

1. Children - To provide for or assist children living in difficult conditions- particularly street children, working children and orphans
2. Women – to assist young mothers and widows with children by assisting them with education, healthcare and training skills so they can become self-sufficient.

Major Activities, Achievements and Performance in Kurdistan

Essentially this stemmed from the rush to do something to help in a desperate situation. As the group's founders, campaigned and fund-raised in London, the fledgling group established close links with a Kurdish group in Kurdistan that was already active in providing rudimentary relief for children. At the first meeting of representatives from both groups it was agreed they would work together under the title of Kurdistan Save the Children (KSC). We, in the UK, then applied for formal Charity Status and were advised to register instead as the Kurdistan Children's Fund to avoid confusion with the long established Save the Children Fund (UK). We agreed, but unfortunately it was too late to change the name in Kurdistan. This is why we operate under one logo but two separate names.

A Board of Trustee runs KCF/KSC. We also have a management committee and a loyal band of volunteers. The KCF/KSC was established to provide or assist in the relief of suffering among the Kurdish people, particularly (but not exclusively) to refugees and their dependants who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress.

1. Children: To provide for or assist children living in difficult conditions - particularly street children, working children and orphans.
2. Women: To assist young mothers and widows with children by assisting them with housing, education, health-care and training skills so they can become self-sufficient.
3. General: We are involved in child sponsorship, education, health, child protection etc.

Major Activities, Achievements and Performance in Kurdistan April

- KSC's Sulaimaniya Childrens Music Band performed in the centre of Sulaimaniya city as well as giving a performance at the Sulaimaniya Orphanage
- Two cardiac doctors from Italy and have set up a 'clinic' at KSC's main office to carry out tests on a number of children with heart disease
- KSC, together with the local health department, has put together a film about Thalassaemia, in Kurdish with English subtitles

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Major Activities, Achievements and Performance in Kurdistan (continued)

May

- One of KCF'S volunteer from the UK who was visiting KSC in Sulaimaniya kindly offered to travel from Sulaimaniya to Erbil and then to escort a mother and her sick child to Vienna for a badly needed heart operation.
- An appeal was made for donations to open a summer camp for the children of a refugee camp in Qalawa area Sulaimaniya for the three month summer break between June and August.

June

- KSC Sara and Sarshaqam Kaziwas' organized a festival at Azady Park in Sulaimaniya to celebrate International Children's Day, the events included traditional drumming which was performed by the Children's Drum Band, singing and short plays carried out by the children as well as various other events.
- Sulaimaniya Vocational Training Institute BPI was officially opened by Mrs. Hero Ibrahim Ahmed, KSC's General Director at KSC's Youth Centre. KSC has funded courses for training electricians and plumbers, majoring in electrical, water and sanitation installations in private and public houses. The trainers will be three teachers from Austria, and two local assistants
- July
- KSC's Department of Education organised a two-day joint exhibition of artistic and craft items created by the children from the Kaziwa in Sara, Sarshaqam, and Chwarta.
- A fund raising event was held to help children who have dropped out of school to enable them to be reintegrated into the educational system and to provide them the opportunities of continuing and completing their education.

- In June, the Youth Activity Centre of Koya opened a 3 month English language course for 50 youths both male and female.

August

- KSC's dept of Education, in cooperation with 'La Pluie d'Oiseaux' Association of France organized a series of educational workshops for the children of the Kaziwas. Ms. Juliette Kapla, a singer from France worked with the children to show them the infinite possibilities of the human voice, melody, tones, rhythms, and other forms of human expression in creating music.
- KSC continued helping children of the internally displaced families, currently staying in the refugees' camps at the foot of the Qandil Mountain, the team made the second visit there on August 9. The team was composed of KSC officers from the KSC Education, Health Sectors Department and a KSC doctor.

September

- KSC organized a workshop, entitled "Working Together", for the arts and crafts teachers of various Kaziwas, Ms. Kwestan Jamal a Kurd from Norway volunteered to design and conduct the workshop which was aimed at bringing together different cultures by sharing the experience of studying and working with children in Norway.
- KSC held a raising awareness and fundraising event, to support the internally displaced families living in those villages close to the Iranian and Turkish borders which have been bombed and who have found shelter in the makeshift Mangurayati and Gojar refugee camps situated at the foot of the Qandil Mountain.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Continued) For the year ended 31st March 2013

Major Activities, Achievements and Performance in Kurdistan (continued)

October

- Dr Huner Mohammed Amin and Dr. Omed Hamid Ali, specializing in ear, nose and throat disorders, examined 15 children having congenital hearing disorders and speech problems before carrying out Cochlear implant surgery on them. KSC has provided the Cochlear Implant devices
- A group of children from Sara Kaziwa's drumming team and their teacher took part in a music therapy session for the women patients of the Soz Psychiatric hospital in Tasluja, Sulaimaniya.

November

- KSC's Child Protection dept. started a one-year project entitled "Protecting Children from All Forms of Violence". The project aims at implementing Article 19 of the Convention of the

Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly Resolution 44 /25 on 20 November 1989.

- With funding from a donor in the UK water pipes, a sink and taps with an immersion heater giving constant hot water have been installed to a school in a small village on the outskirts of Sulaimaniya. This is probably the only village school with hot running water not only in the Kurdish Region but in the whole of Iraq

December

- Berufspädagogisches institute (BPI) , awarded graduation certificates to 32 youths both male and female who completed ten-month training courses, majoring in electrical, water and sanitation installations, in private and public houses. The courses are funded by KSC.
- Visits were made by KCF staff to the border villages of Suni and Barda Qsl to which the schools which were bombed by the Iranians
- A two day book sale was held in Amna Suraka, Sulaimaniya, Proceeds will go towards the education of children from two villages on the Turkey/Iraq border. Books donated by KCF • KSC was again played host to a team of Italian doctors who are specialists in Cardiac Catheterization and Heart Disease. They performed heart surgery on a number of children with congenital heart diseases with the help of cardiologists in the Catheterization Department of Sulaimaniya Cardiac Hospital.

January

- Two of Kurdistan Children's Fund's (KCF) volunteers both young Kurdish students from London organized a concert to raise funds for the Earthquake victims of the Van Earthquake.
- The concert was held at the Westminster University old cinema with the kind support of the student Union

February

- KSC Hawler Office visited Kava camp, located in the Qushtapa district of the Hawler Governorate, which has provided refuge to the families left homeless after the destructive Earthquake in Van, Turkey. They distributed clothing, shoes, and toys for the children living at the camp as well as giving each family a sum of money
- KCF sent boxes of toys from the UK for the orphanages and special needs classes.

March

- KSC'S Youth Activity Centre of Sulaimaniya held a book fare; more than 15000 books were available on Philosophy, History, Literature, Religion, Computer science. All books were written in Kurdish, Arabic and Persian