



## United Sri Lankan Muslim Association of Australia



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## Update | Zakat Al Fitr - 2021



Salaams USMAA Family,

Alhamdulillah this Ramadan we were overwhelmed with the generosity of our USMAA Family. We raised two and a half times more than the required target for the two Zakat Al Fitr projects that were identified for this year.

Therefore, not only did we increase the **scope** of the already identified projects (in Muttur and Anuradhapura), but we also spread the love even more by assisting **two additional but similar projects**.

This Ramadan, the USMAA Family changed the lives of the following:

### **KANDY PROJECT (NEW)**

The Rawzul Islam Orphanage/ Rio Care and Share Community Home caters to 61 orphans. Some have no parents at all, while some have only the mother. As the mothers are financially unable to support their children, they have been entrusted to the orphanage.

Following the Easter bomb attacks, the Divisional Secretariat had informed that all Muslim orphanages and Madrasas cannot provide accommodation to anyone, unless there were no foster homes available to place the children in. As a result, these orphans have now been placed with foster families or their mothers. The foster families/mothers are themselves financially constrained and is undertaking this task since a monthly payment for the upkeep is given to the foster family by the orphanage.

The USMAA Family distributed provision packs (sufficient for at least three meals) costing Rs 2,500 to these 61 families to enable them to celebrate Eid with the rest of the community.

In the letter of acknowledgement, the President of the orphanage mentioned that ever since the orphanage had been established in 2006, they had managed to make Eid special to the orphans but this year due to the lockdowns/travel restrictions, they had not been able to arrange anything. He stated that the Fitra packs had come as a 'relief welcome gift' and that 'Allah

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(swt) had sent this rahma to the orphans through USMAA.'

The packs had been distributed in piecemeal to abide by health regulations due to the pandemic.

### **DIGANA PROJECT (NEW)**

There are 39 orphan girls and boys who are housed at The Guardian Child Development Centre. This orphanage has managed to place the other orphans at foster homes but had not been successful to find homes for the 39. There are 5 caregivers who look after them. The USMAA Family hosted these orphans and caregivers to all THREE meals on the day of Eid at a total cost of Rs 25,000.

### **MUTTUR PROJECT**

USMAA distributed a hamper of provisions to 70 (increased from 52) financially struggling Muslim families in a remote area, in the town of Muttur. As mentioned in our initial email, these families are daily wage earners whose livelihood was lost due to the extended lockdowns in Sri Lanka. They represent the lowest economic strata of society.

Each provision pack, worth Rs 2,500, was sufficient for a family of six for at least two meals (if not more) on the day of Eid.

### **ANURADHAPURA PROJECT**

USMAA used part of the Zakat Al Fitr funds collected to provide three meals (increased from two) on Eid for 90 orphans at the Hamdhaniya Arabic College in Anuradhapura at a total cost of Rs 25,000.

So, that is how USMAA's TWO Zakat Al Fitr projects became FOUR!

We may be a small organisation, but we sure do have a BIG heart.

Alhamdulillah!

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May Allah reward everyone, involved in this initiative, with the best in this world and the next! Aameen Aameen Ya Rabbal Aalameen.

Wassalam

Ruzna Shums

Secretary - USMAA



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