

20
24

Al-Ayn Social Care Foundation (UK)

Activities Report

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We renew our thanks and appreciation to those working for, supporting, and contributing to the charitable activities of this pioneering foundation, for the distinctive care it provides to our beloved orphans and to needy individuals, including those who are widowed, ill, and displaced.

Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani | August 2022

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Message From the CEO

Al-Ayn's story has always been one of hope, compassion and empowerment. It comprises the many stories of thousands of children in our care that embark on the journey to self-sufficiency with our care and guidance.

The last year has been one of achievement, lessons learned and preparation for the coming period. This chapter of our journey has included making huge strides toward achieving our goals and realising our vision of a world without poverty. Halfway through the year, we were delighted to announce that Al-Ayn has officially registered all orphaned children in the province of Al-Diwaniyah, Iraq, effectively eradicating poverty in the region.

In January, we marked 18 years of Al-Ayn; a bittersweet moment. With 18 years being the usual age that we see children achieve self-sufficiency and embark on their own journeys into the world, this milestone gave us pause to acknowledge the thousands of lives lifted out of poverty and guided toward a life of opportunity and hope.

This year, a young man named Ahmed graduated from medical school in Iraq. Whilst this may be of relatively little significance on the surface, Ahmed was under the care of Al-Ayn during his childhood, and his story is one of adversity up until this point of major achievement. Ahmed was orphaned as a child, and when he achieved his certificate, he presented it to Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani-the only father figure he had throughout his childhood years. Ahmed is one example of so many children that go on to achieve immense success with our programme, and stories like his are what inspire our resolve to persevere through challenges and reach even more children in need of support.

Due to the very nature of our work being developmental, post-conflict recovery, aimed at rebuilding lives and repairing the effects of trauma and poverty with a specialism in the welfare of children with complex circumstances, our work is led by specialists and experts in every field. This also means that your support is transformative, and the implementation of it is carefully and thoroughly researched, planned, regularly reviewed and expertly delivered.

We have also taken significant steps this year to ensure that we continue to expand our reach to the families of orphaned children, including widowed mothers, guardians, and siblings of orphaned children that require help and support with anything from life-saving medical treatment to safe homes.

Whilst the year involved navigating the complexities of working in areas with unique sets of challenges, devastated by instability and abject poverty as a result of decades of conflict, our teams were able to overcome these challenges to ensure that our aid delivery mechanism remained unaffected, and that your aid was delivered throughout the year without incident. We also spent the year laying the foundations for our future plans of expansion and sustainability, paving the way to make our work, and your support, even more effective and far-reaching.

Our supporters, whether they contributed anything from their religious dues to their time and anything in between, are part of every success that orphaned children have achieved through Al-Ayn. We are proud that each and every one of you is part of our journey and that our work is reaching heights never before seen across our areas of operation. This success is yours as well as it is that of those benefitting from the work that we do in tandem, with the shared goal of relief and development for those in need, without compromising their dignity or our integrity and values.

I hope that you will look back on the last year of this work in the same way that we have; whilst we celebrate every success, we understand that there is, unfortunately, so much more to do. We pray that we surpass all expectations of us from the children under our care, and that we are able to continue this noble work to increasing scales, even greater standards, and even more impact.

Dr Ahmed Al-Khaja, Director

About Us

Al-Ayn UK is one of 14 global members of Al-Ayn International that works to empower orphaned children and provide them with comprehensive support and services. Among Al-Ayn's members are 3 field offices in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Ghana that assess the needs on the ground, distribute aid, follow up, monitor, assess and evaluate.

Since the end of 2024, Al-Ayn has been providing monthly support to over 100,000 orphaned children across Iraq, Afghanistan, and Ghana - a record number in the organisation's history!

This figure does not include the thousands of family members and widowed mothers that are also supported by Al-Ayn's work and lifted above the poverty line.

Over 196,000 orphaned children have been supported since Al-Ayn's inception 18 years ago.



OUR VISION

Our vision is that orphaned children, and members of other vulnerable groups, can overcome their difficult circumstances, and live a dignified future in which they can follow their life choices alongside their peers.

We believe in:

TRANSPARENCY

We comply with international standards in handling and disbursing money and donations.

DIGNITY

We ensure that our services are of the highest quality and promote the dignity of beneficiaries.

EMPOWERMENT

We provide for beneficiaries' needs completely so that they are free to concentrate on living their lives as they wish and fulfilling their potential.

EFFECTIVENESS

We continuously evaluate and improve the services we provide, to ensure beneficiaries have a positive contribution to society.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to empower orphaned children, and provide them with core essential services, other important services, and continuous support, so they may become independent. We do this by:

1. Conducting country-specific research to identify beneficiaries, set criteria for prioritising the support we give, and verify the continuous need of the beneficiaries we support.
2. Conducting research to understand the various needs of beneficiaries, prioritise these needs, and put a timeline accordingly for addressing these needs.
3. Providing services that address the needs of beneficiaries, in a dignified manner.
4. Continuously evaluating the type and level of services provided and engaging with experts and professionals to develop them further.
5. Building a strong network with various sections of society that support our work, based on principles of partnership and transparency.
6. Raising the funds needed to achieve our vision, through transparent methods.
7. Raising awareness about the plight of the groups that we care for, and about all aspects of our work.

By providing families under our care with essential resources and holistic support, we aim to transform their lives, enabling them to build brighter futures for themselves and their communities.

Key Achievements in 2024



children received on-going support across Iraq, Afghanistan, and Ghana, marking the highest number of children receiving support since Al-Ayn's inception.



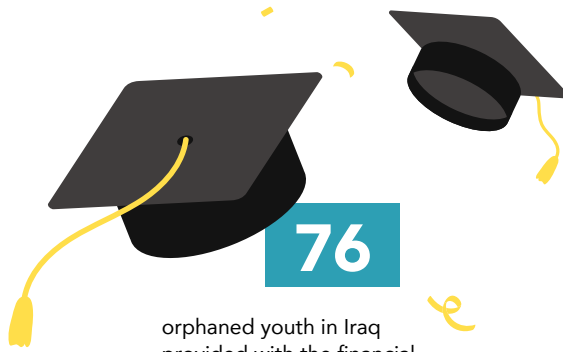
100,048

children supported in Iraq. Each receiving financial aid, nutritional aid, access to healthcare, and housing support.



15,146

medical treatments for orphaned children provided or facilitated by Al-Ayn.



orphaned youth in Iraq provided with the financial means to enrol into university.



2,654

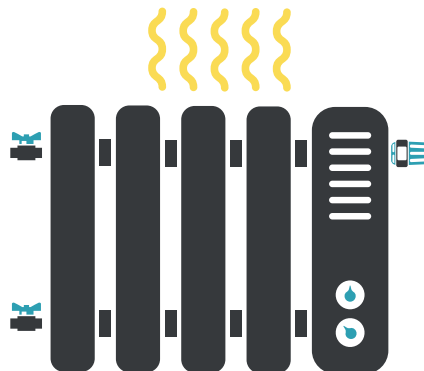
winter blankets distributed to orphaned children and their families in Iraq.

45,000+

Ramadan food packages distributed across Iraq, Ghana and Afghanistan to orphaned families.

329

winter blankets distributed to orphaned children and their guardians in Afghanistan.



1,998

heaters distributed to orphaned children and their families in Iraq.

488

newly registered children supported in Afghanistan, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to

1,002

Ensuring each receive financial assistance, nutritional aid, and access to healthcare.

95

newly registered children supported in Ghana, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to

303

This assistance encompasses financial aid, nutritional support, access to healthcare, and housing support.

**350**

families in Afghanistan received fuel for heating.

**1**

housing complex opened in Al-Muthana, with

20

housing units for orphaned families.

**138**

vocational training courses completed.

**2,000+**

volunteers across the world supported Al-Ayn in its mission.

**3**

United Nations participations at the Human Rights Council in Geneva and the Economic and Social Council in New York.

First-time participation by Al-Ayn in the United Nations' 68th Commission on the Status of Women in New York.

Authorisation

Al-Ayn first registered as a non-governmental organisation in 2006 in Iraq. Today, Al-Ayn is registered in 14 countries across the world.



**AUSTRALIA • AFGHANISTAN • BELGIUM • CANADA • DENMARK • GERMANY • GHANA • IRAQ
NORWAY • THE NETHERLANDS • SWEDEN • SWITZERLAND • UNITED KINGDOM • UNITED STATES.**

Since its establishment, Al-Ayn has enjoyed the direct support and blessings of Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani by receiving his renewed authorisation (Ijaza) every 4 years. This encompasses his authorisation (Ijaza) for Al-Ayn to receive religious dues including Khums (both parts), Zakat, Kaffara, and Fidya, in addition to encouraging supporters to donate towards Al-Ayn's various projects.

In 2024, Al-Ayn continued to implement components from the Ijaza released in November 2022.

This included:

- ✓ Supporting widowed mothers in addition to orphaned children.
- ✓ Providing medical assistance to widowed mothers and guardians in addition to orphaned children.
- ✓ Expanding our support to reach regions outside of Iraq, such as Afghanistan, and Ghana.
- ✓ Fundraising for operational costs to ensure Al-Ayn can operate effectively.

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

We renew our thanks and appreciation to those working for, supporting, and contributing to the charitable activities of this pioneering foundation, for the distinctive care it provides to our beloved orphans and to needy individuals, including those who are widowed, ill, and displaced. We congratulate them on the expansion of (the Foundation's) work and its inclusion of countries other than Iraq. We ask Allah Almighty to grant everyone further success in continuing this blessed journey, and to increase their reward. We have given you permission with regards to what you have requested, in relation to the areas mentioned, conditional on the supervision of the eminent honourable scholar Sheikh Anjed Riyadh, may his support be maintained, with the appointment of the eminent scholar Sheikh Nazar Yousef, may his support be maintained, as his deputy. This permission is for a period of five years. I advise everyone to invoke the observance of Allah Almighty in private and in public, and to observe precaution, for it is the way to salvation. May Allah's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you.



26 Muharram 1444

Ali Al-Husseini Al-Sistani

Read the full Ijaza
by scanning the
QR code



Khums

Khums, which means 'one-fifth' in Arabic, refers to a religious tax levied on specific items according to Islamic Law. Khums mainly applies to surplus income derived from various sources, including earnings and gains and serves as an important obligation for Muslims seeking to fulfil their religious duties.

In 2024, thousands of supporters around the world fulfilled their religious obligations with Al-Ayn, enabling us to expand our reach and support even more orphaned children as authorised by Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani.

Khums donations received by Al-Ayn were used to provide essential support to orphaned children. This applies to both Sahm Al-Imam and Sahm Al-Sada donations.

In 2024, Khums donations enabled us to:

- **Provide financial allowances to lift children out of poverty**
- **Cover orphaned children's surgical or medical fees**
- **Provide housing support to orphaned families**
- **Provide clothing to orphaned children and their families**
- **Build and equip health clinics**
- **Provide school kits to orphaned children**
- **Provide vocational training courses to orphaned youth**
- **Build new homes for orphaned families**
- **Repair homes**

Al-Ayn's Khums Calculator

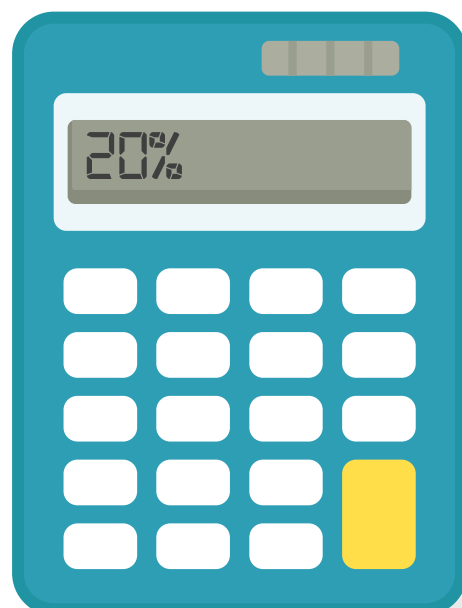
Al-Ayn's scholar-approved Khums calculator is the most comprehensive and accurate online Khums calculator to date.

In 2024, hundreds of supporters were able to find out how much Khums they needed to pay with confidence and ease, and were sent a free comprehensive report within seconds.

Scholar support provided by Al-Ayn

In 2024, Al-Ayn continued to provide scholar support for its donors. We ensured tailored, expert support was available by arranging phone calls to go through the different aspects of religious dues and how payments are categorised.

Receipts issued by Al-Ayn are sufficient in fulfilling one's obligation to pay their religious dues of Khums.



Sadaqa Boxes

The most recognisable feature of Al-Ayn is its Sadaqa Box. With special permission from Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani, money placed in an Al-Ayn Sadaqa Box is considered "received charity" (Sadaqa Maqbootha). This means that the rewards associated with Sadaqa are immediately received, as if the charity was given directly to the person in need or their guardian. Al-Ayn spends 100% of Sadaqa donations on orphaned children and their families living in poverty.

In 2024, we exchanged over **650,000 full Sadaqa Boxes**. The donations from these, alongside general donations, supported **over 16,000 orphaned children awaiting private sponsorship**.

Sadaqa donations also enabled us to:

- **Support the essential needs of orphaned children and their families**
- **Provide monthly stipends to orphaned children and their families**
- **Cover orphaned children's surgical or medical fees**
- **Provide housing support to orphaned families, through home repairs and rent payments**
- **Provide new clothing and shoes to orphaned children and their families**

Al-Ayn is also committed to ensuring that electronic Sadaqa donated via the Al-Ayn website or app achieves the status of Sadaqa Maqbootha (received charity) by the end of the next working day.



Al-Ayn App

In 2024, we launched our updated app with new features to make giving even easier.

Our new app integrates with Apple and Google for fast logins, ensuring easy access for all users. We've also broadened our donation options, enabling users to support their favourite causes in more diverse ways than ever and added a dedicated news section to keep users informed on Al-Ayn's latest updates.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters, over 3,600 orphaned children's lives were positively transformed via our app in 2024 - all in just a few taps!



Sadaqa Jariya

Sadaqa Jariya is one of the most powerful ways of giving in Islam, since the lasting benefits of this type of charity are reaped not just by the recipient, but also by the giver.

Since its inception, Al-Ayn has initiated over 220 Sadaqa Jariya projects, and we are committed to developing even more to ensure long-term support for orphaned children and their families.

These projects include:



Luminous Stars Centres



The Medical Complex



Housing complexes



Buildings to generate revenue for Al-Ayn



24

Sadaqa Jariya projects were introduced by Al-Ayn in Iraq in 2024!

SADAQA JARIYA PROJECTS

PROVINCE	COMPLETED	IN-PROGRESS	UNDER CONSIDERATION	TOTAL
Baghdad	25	7	28	60
Najaf	17	6	17	40
Karbala	10	3	20	33
Babil	8	4	9	21
Al-Diwaniyah	6	4	11	21
Basra	9	3	2	14
Wasit	1	3	5	9
Al-Muthanna	5	1	2	8
Nasiriyah	0	2	2	4
Salah Al-Din	1	1	3	5
Maysan	1	2	0	3
Diyala	2	0	2	4
Kirkuk	0	1	1	2
	85	37	102	224

Luminous Stars Centres

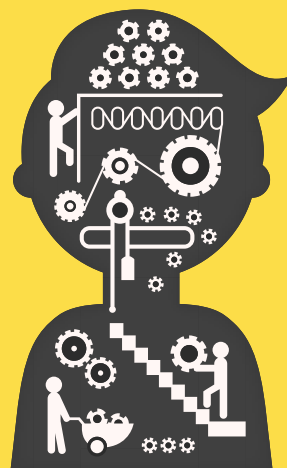
The Luminous Stars centres provide orphaned children with a second chance at life.

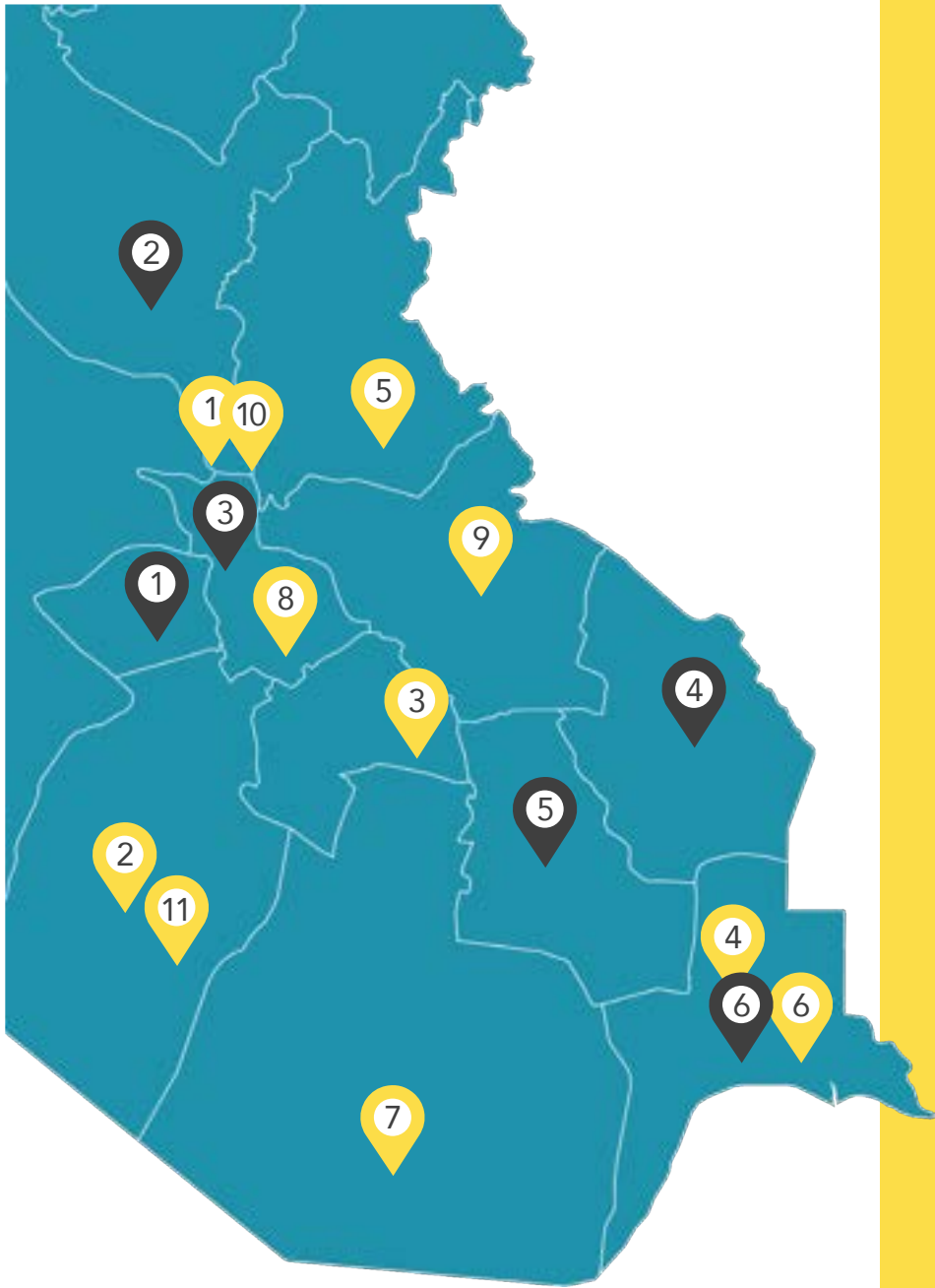
Each centre aims to rebuild the lives of orphaned children and youth by providing them access to free healthcare, psychological rehabilitation, and educational programmes. Orphaned youth are offered vocational training workshops to equip them with marketable skills, paving the way for them to embark on their journeys into their chosen professions, transition into adulthood and achieve independence.

The centres provide the following services:

- A financial aid distribution hall, that includes a dedicated section to review and address children's additional needs.
- Medical support with specialist clinics for general practice, paediatrics, dentistry, optometry, and ENT. Our clinics also comprise a pharmacy, laboratory and an X-ray room.
- Vocational training courses that cover a range of fields, including business management, mobile phone repairs, upholstery, catering, IT skills and more.
- A soft play area for children to play games and engage with their peers.
- A psychological rehabilitation programme which includes counselling and cognitive behavioural therapy.
- A 'mall' area for children to choose their own brand-new clothing and shoes.

In 2024 tens of thousands of orphaned children and their families in Iraq had **access to the services provided in these centres!**





Our Centres Across Iraq



11
COMPLETED

1. Kadhimiya, Baghdad
2. Al-Hira, Najaf
3. Al-Diwaniyah, Qadisiyah
4. Al-Madina, Basra
5. Al-Qazaniya, Diyala
6. Al-Zubair, Basra
7. Al-Samawa, Muthanna
8. Al-Hilla, Babil
9. Al-Kut, Wasit
10. Al-Rusafa, Baghdad
11. Al-Markaz, Najaf



6 UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

1. Al-Markaz, Karbala
2. Balad, Salah al-Din
3. Al-Musayib, Babil
4. Al-Amara, Maysan
5. Al-Nasiriya, Dhi Qar
6. Al-Markaz, Basra

Centres Completed in 2024



AL-KUT, WASIT



1,935

square metres
across 4 floors



The centre will serve

5,800+

orphaned children
and their families



AL-RUSAFA, BAGHDAD



600

square metres
across 5 floors



The centre will serve

26,800+

orphaned children
and their families



AL-MARKAZ, NAJAF



3,000

square metres
across 4 floors



The centre will serve

6,600+

orphaned children
and their families

Housing Complex

Many orphaned children and their families do not have stable housing. One of our long-term projects is building fit-for-purpose housing complexes fully equipped with the necessary amenities.

To date, we have constructed 9 different complexes across Iraq, making 407 housing units ready and available for living.



In 2024, we completed the Imam Hussain (AS) complex in Al-Muthana! The complex covers an area of **3,688 square metres** and consists of **20 housing units** for orphaned families.

The Medical Complex

In 2024, Al-Ayn began fundraising for a new Medical Complex located in the heart of Baghdad, Al-Kadhimiya. This Sadaqa Jariya project will provide essential medical services for orphaned children, widowed mothers and those who are impoverished. Services will include essential preventative, diagnostic, and treatment care.

Clinics will offer a range of services including general, dental, ENT, fractures and joint care, dermatology, lung screening, ultrasounds, and more - all free of charge for those who are impoverished and in need of medical care.

The centre will cover an area of 366 square metres across 15 stores, consisting of 33 clinics and various examination rooms.

Did you know?

The new Medical Complex extends to those in the wider community who are facing poverty and require access to healthcare.



The Hikayati Centre

Hikayati's vision is to empower vulnerable young people to achieve mental wellbeing, realise their potential, become productive members of society and the leaders of tomorrow.

Hikayati, which translates to "My Story", is a purpose-built, child-centred building located in the Adala district of Najaf, Iraq. Children and young people who come to the Hikayati centre make use of the cutting edge recreational and educational facilities of the centre in parallel to undertaking a thorough, evidence-informed programme which has been specially designed to develop their resilience, emotional wellbeing, and life-skills.

Objectives of the Hikayati programme:

- To encourage orphaned children and young people to develop crucial life-skills, resilience and wellbeing.
- To provide orphaned children and young people with long-term mentoring which will provide emotional support, enhance school return and retention.
- To enable the early detection of any mental or physical health difficulties, family or financial stressors, educational challenges or safeguarding concerns and activate early referral to the appropriate support services within and outside of Al-Ayn.

The design and architecture of Hikayati was inspired by children's story books. All the rooms, including the library, theatre, indoor swimming pool, museums, and prayer area were designed to cultivate a creative environment where the children can learn, grow, and use their imaginations.

Did you know?

External consultants from Great Ormond Street Hospital and the charity 'Yes Futures' were consulted throughout the programme development.



The aim of the Hikayati programme is to provide orphaned children with programmes to enhance their wellbeing, mental health and life opportunities through a combination of education, play, leisure activities, mentoring, therapy and spiritual guidance. Every child receives a programme that is personalised to their needs, with specially designed workshops and long-term mentoring. Each child is allocated to a mentor who supports them during the programme, and then continues to mentor them long-term. This is to ensure that every child knows who to turn to if they are concerned, need guidance and advice or are in need of help.

"Hikayati is like my family, I hope the smile lasts on your face like you made me smile."
(Male, age 13)

The Hikayati Process

1. Children and young people are referred to Hikayati by their local Al-Ayn branches.
2. They undertake a screening process and questionnaires about the mental health and wellbeing before the programme.
3. They complete the intensive Hikayati programme which usually consists of 12 visits to the Hikayati centre. During this time, they complete the Hikayati workshops, enjoy the facilities and are introduced to their mentor.
4. After every visit or workshop children are asked for their feedback and suggestions for improvement.
5. Mechanisms are in place to escalate, refer, or provide additional support to any children where health, mental health, financial, educational, safeguarding concerns are detected.
6. At the end of the programme, the screening process and questionnaires about the mental health and wellbeing are repeated.
7. Children have a short graduation celebration.
8. Children continue to have contact with their mentor on an at least monthly basis.

"I didn't care about other people's feelings, now I care."
(Female, age 12)

Did you know?

Once the programmes were developed, they were peer reviewed by a network of over 40 specialists from bereavement, psychology, speech and language therapy, counselling and educational backgrounds.



"I enjoyed it, you are very nice and treated me well. Now I can work better with other people. It changed my perspective and made me positive. It was perfect, I can't imagine anything better!"
(Female, age 12)



Al-Ayn's Private Sponsorship Programme

Our Child Sponsorship Programme provides supporters with an opportunity to transform lives. Through expert-led research, we have determined the amount needed to lift an orphaned child in the areas we operate above the poverty line.

The Sponsorship Programme addresses a child's most critical health, food, shelter and educational needs. The child's requirements are re-assessed regularly to ensure our support is fit for purpose.



In 2024, we expanded our child sponsorship programme to Afghanistan and Ghana!

We conduct a regular reassessment of all those under our care to ensure assistance and support is based on a fair and precise evaluation system.

In addition to monthly financial aid, children and their families have access to our comprehensive care system which include the following:



MEDICAL CARE AND TREATMENTS



FOOD SUPPORT



EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT



ADDITIONAL SEASONAL RELIEF DURING RAMADAN, EID, MUHARRAM, WINTER AND MORE



SAFE HOUSING (IRAQ+GHANA)



VOCATIONAL TRAINING (IRAQ)



Medical Care & Psychological Rehabilitation

Our health clinics in Iraq contain the latest equipment and devices and are staffed by expert medical practitioners who offer free long-term healthcare to children, including regular check-ups and ongoing care for chronic conditions.

From general medicine to specialised care in paediatrics, dental, optometry, and more, our clinics are prepared to meet a wide range of health needs. We have an in-house pharmacy that provides orphaned children and their families with medications they require. We also hold regular workshops to increase medical awareness and support them in managing their health.

Medical professionals dedicate their time and services to the centre and liaise with hospitals and physicians inside and outside of Iraq so that orphaned children with more complex needs can be supported. For severe cases requiring treatment abroad, we cover all associated costs, ensuring no child is left without necessary care.

Since its inception, Al-Ayn has carried out:



OVER
133,000
MEDICAL CASES
TREATED



OVER
2,860
SURGERIES
COMPLETED



OVER
3,650
PSYCHOLOGICAL
REHABILITATION CASES
REGISTERED



In 2024, Al-Ayn facilitated over **15,146** medical treatments for orphaned children and their families.

Al-Ayn's Psychological Rehabilitation programme focuses on monitoring the psychological wellbeing of the orphaned children under our care and addressing cases requiring specialised psychological interventions. We employ evidence-based mental health interventions, such as cognitive-behavioural therapy, group counselling, and other medical therapies, to cater to the unique needs of each child.



Educational Support

Education is a powerful tool that can transform lives. Al-Ayn is dedicated to providing orphaned children and young adults with the resources and support they need to thrive academically. We believe that education is the key to unlocking their full potential, and we are committed to helping them stay in school and succeed.

We regularly hold ceremonies to celebrate students who are excelling in their studies and encourage others to prioritise education.

In 2024, we provided:

In 2024, every child of school age under our care in Iraq received a free school uniform, school bag, and stationery.

School Kits

School kits lessen the financial strain on guardians of orphaned children, allowing them to redirect their focus and resources toward supporting their children's educational journey in a more meaningful way.



Tuition Classes

We offer tuition support to orphaned children who are struggling in particular subjects. Our dedicated teachers provide personalised guidance to help unlock their strengths so that they can thrive academically.

We also support those who are high achieving by providing additional tuition support to allowing to excel academically and gain the grades needed to get into tertiary education.

In 2024, we provided 76 orphaned youth with the financial means to go to university.

University Fees

We covered the cost of tuition fees and expenses for university students. **Over 800** of the orphaned youth we support are currently enrolled into university.



In 2024, we had 1,459 academically talented school children being supported.

Vocational Training

We understand that not all orphaned youth are able to continue with education, that is why we started our vocational training programme to help them into adulthood and achieve greater independence. The programmes are selected based on a study carried out to identify professions that are not oversaturated and will always be required in society.



In 2024, over 130 orphaned youth and widowed mothers enrolled in our vocational training programme.



To date, **1,120 orphaned youth** and **widowed mothers** have graduated from the following vocations:



BUSINESS SKILLS



MOBILE PHONE REPAIRS



IT SKILLS



HANDICRAFTS



HAIRDRESSING



SEWING



CATERING

Al-Ayn also offers the resources they require for training, including all necessary tools and equipment, transportation expenses, and meals during training hours. The training includes seminars on project management and advice on how to apply their skills in the workplace.

Did you know?
 All of our vocational training courses are available for widowed mothers to enrol in too, over 25% of our graduates are widowed mothers!

Microfinance

Al-Ayn has supported orphaned youth with microfinance loans to start their own businesses and achieve financial independence. This programme is primarily aimed at graduates of the Luminous Stars vocational training centres, although it is also open to other applicants. We support entrepreneurs in delivering a business plan and agree on a repayment schedule with them to kick start their careers. Examples of successful projects in the past include mobile repair shops, hairdressers, sewing ventures, catering services, an aluminium factory and more.



In 2021, Al-Ayn began its operations in Kabul, Afghanistan. By building upon our successful model developed over the past 18 years in Iraq, our experience of working in a conflict zone positioned us well to establish operations in Afghanistan and start supporting orphaned children living in poverty.

Over 3.5 million children in Afghanistan are orphaned. Millions of children have been forced to live without essential services such as education and healthcare, this has led to a major humanitarian crisis (UNICEF, 2022).

Going beyond financial assistance, our approach in Afghanistan strives to provide orphaned children and their families with essential necessities, such as:



1,002

Orphaned children and their families were supported in 2024

Medical Support

Al-Ayn offers financial aid to guardians of orphaned children ensuring the family receives essential medical attention, medication, and treatments when required.

Additional Seasonal Relief

Seasonal support is provided to guardians of orphaned children to ensure they have additional support during more challenging periods.



In 2024, over 20 orphaned children and widowed mothers facing critical health conditions were reviewed.



In 2024, we distributed warm clothing, blankets, Eid gifts, food baskets and more!



Our Achievements in 2024



168

RAMADAN
FOOD BASKETS
DISTRIBUTED



508

EID GIFTS
DISTRIBUTED



178

OURBANI
MEAT PARCELS
DISTRIBUTED



1,503

WARM CLOTHES
DISTRIBUTED



329

BLANKETS
DISTRIBUTED

- Launched our Private Sponsorship programme to allow supporters to sponsor an orphaned children in the region
- Expanded our support to Balkh Province with the opening of a new office in Mazar-e-Sharif





Ghana

In 2022, Al-Ayn began its operations in Accra, Ghana, to establish sustainable and dignified services that cater to the needs of orphaned children and their families.

The dimensions of poverty in Ghana extend beyond monetary indicators. Deprivation spans across various facets of life, encompassing inadequate access to education, healthcare, housing, and sanitation among the most vulnerable populations (UNICEF, 2022).

Beyond the provision of financial assistance, our comprehensive approach aims to grant orphaned children and their families access to:

Housing Support

Al-Ayn recognises that stable housing is fundamental for orphaned children and their families' wellbeing. We have provided housing support to families by fulfilling their rent payments, offering a sense of stability, safety, and comfort that enables them to focus on their emotional and educational growth without the worry of shelter insecurity.

Towards the end of 2023, our team in Ghana recognised an urgent need for intervention when visiting a beneficiary's house which was lacking basic facilities like a bathroom, the family was forced to use communal toilets accessed via a narrow and hazardous alleyway.

Al-Ayn immediately initiated a reconstruction project in September 2023. In the beginning of 2024, the family's home was transformed into a safe and welcoming space, allowing them to live with dignity.



303

Orphaned children and their families were supported in 2024



In the beginning of 2024, the family's home was transformed into a **safe and welcoming space,** allowing them to live with dignity.

In 2024, we attained an agreement with a hospital to facilitate initial **consultation/triage** for beneficiaries in need of medical support. We have supported **over 10 critical medical cases,** some of which require ongoing treatments.

Medical Support

Al-Ayn provides guardians of orphaned children with financial aid when required so that the family can receive essential medical attention, medication, and treatments, promoting their physical wellbeing and enabling them to lead healthier lives.

Sanitation

Sanitation is crucial for maintaining health and preventing diseases. We aim to ensure that they have a comprehensive understanding of hygiene practices, empowering them to safeguard themselves and their communities from potential health concerns.



We have supported a number of families by helping them **obtain their legal documentation** and **gain access to services** they would not have otherwise.

In 2024, we piloted our water well project in Kasoa (Central Region of Ghana), to provide **clean, safe water** to families living in the area.

Legal Documentation

Al-Ayn facilitates the acquisition of legal documentation and biometric certification for orphaned families in need. The absence of these documents poses numerous obstacles in their daily lives, making it imperative to address this issue. Obtaining these documents is essential for accessing education, healthcare services, securing formal employment, and ensuring eligibility for government programmes.

Our Achievements in 2024



105

RAMADAN
FOOD BASKETS
DISTRIBUTED



113

EID GIFTS
DISTRIBUTED



287

QURBANI
MEAT PARCELS
DISTRIBUTED

- Launched our Private Sponsorship programme to allow supporters to sponsor an orphaned children in the region
- Published our inaugural research paper, offering an analysis of multidimensional poverty in Ghana
- Extended our support to 5 regions across in Ghana, this included Greater Accra, Central Region, Eastern Region, Ashanti, and Bono East
- Organised several celebration events for children and their families to attend



The United Nations

Al-Ayn's extensive work for orphaned children living in poverty has been recognised by the United Nations. In 2016, we were granted **special consultative status** with the **United Nations' Economic and Social Council**.

Al-Ayn's goals at the United Nations:

1. Presenting to the international community Al-Ayn's extensive work to support orphaned children in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Ghana.
2. Showcasing initiatives such as our Luminous Stars centres and the Hikayati centre.
3. Raising awareness of the period of violence in Iraq that still affects communities to this day and advocating for the victims of that period.
4. Showcasing Al-Ayn's advocacy impact on the international community.
5. Fostering key relationships within the international community to exchange experiences and best practices.

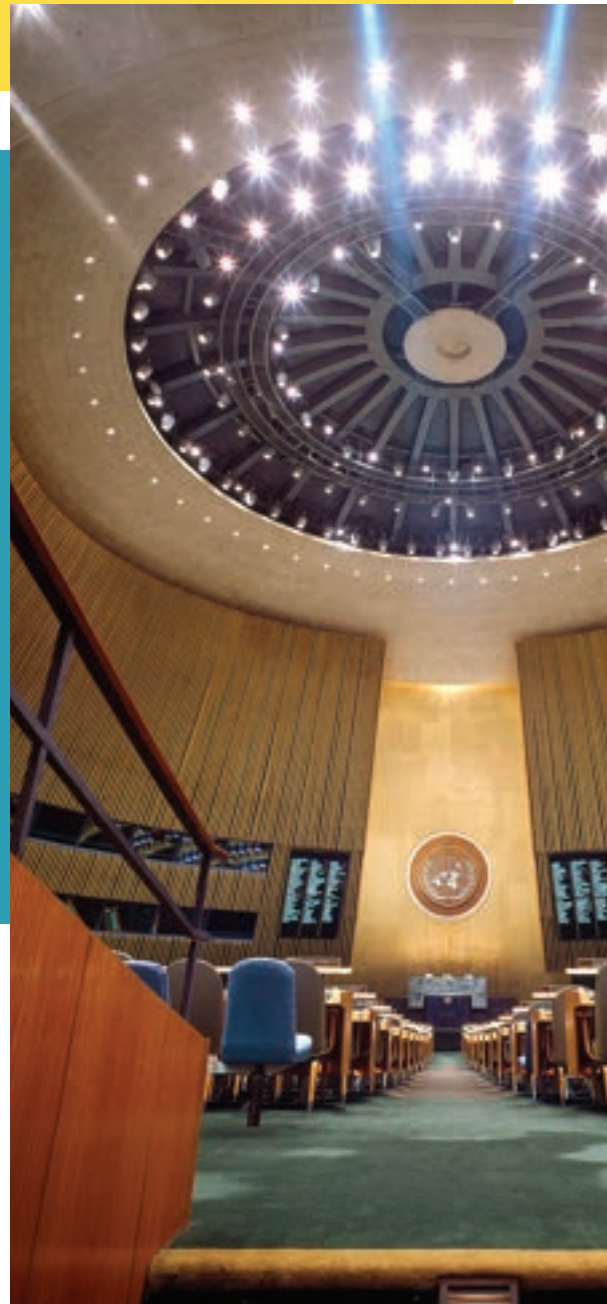
In 2024, Al-Ayn engaged in the following:

- The Human Rights Council (55th and 57th sessions) in Geneva by submitting written statements.
- The Economic and Social Council High-Level Segment in New York by submitting a written statement.
- The Commission of the Status of Women (68th session) in New York by attending for the first time to learn more about how we can represent widowed mothers to the international community.

Our statements

Informed the international community of our various projects and ongoing work in Iraq, Afghanistan and Ghana. These can be found on the official United Nations website.

Since 2016, Al-Ayn has taken part in **19 engagements**, consisting of oral statements, written statements, and a side session.



Events

At Al-Ayn, we regularly organise events and workshops for our communities
Here are just a few of the events we hosted in 2024!



Al-Ayn International Conference

Al-Ayn International's Annual General Conference in 2024 gathered Chief Executive Officers from Al-Ayn members across the globe. The three-day event heard from expert speakers at Al-Ayn, with seminars and workshops covering a wide range of topics within the international development sector.

Through engaging workshops and collaborative sessions, members discussed the latest research, refined best practices, and created unified plans to increase Al-Ayn's global reach.



Our Volunteers

Volunteers have made Al-Ayn what it is today.

We have supported over **196,000 orphaned children** in Iraq, Afghanistan and Ghana. This would not have been achieved without the dedication and commitment of our volunteers who selflessly give their time and support.

Our volunteers support our operations in a variety of ways, from supporting the Sadaqa Box operations to administrative tasks, media related tasks and stalls. They also fundraise for us by getting creative and taking part in marathons, hikes, bake sales and much more!



In 2024,
over **2,000**
volunteers and
fundraisers around
the globe became
part of the
Al-Ayn family,
each making a
unique and valuable
contribution.

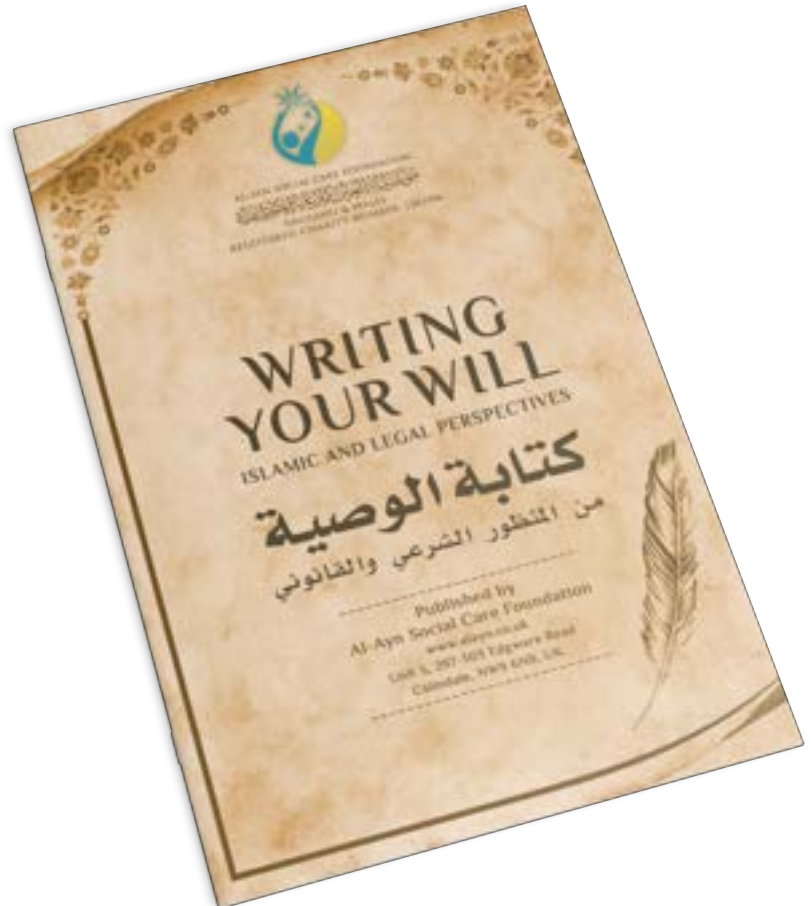
Legacies

Legacy giving is a crucial component of our work. It gives our supporters access to choose how they would like their legacy to be shaped. When individuals contact us to arrange a gift in a will, we provide tailored support so that they are able to make informed decisions about their legacy and the impact it can have on future generations.

Al-Ayn published a guide titled: *Writing Your Will: Islamic and Legal Perspectives*. This guide highlights the issues you need to consider when meeting with a solicitor to write your will, to ensure that your inheritance is distributed in line with Islamic requirements, and that the guardianship of your children after you pass away is in line with your wishes.

It covers the following areas:

- **An introduction to the Islamic requirements for writing a will**
- **An introduction to the legal requirements for writing a will**
- **An introduction to tax rules**
- **An introduction to child guardianship rules**
- **A checklist of areas to consider**



In 2024,
Al-Ayn received
its first property
outside of Iraq!

This will be the first **Sadaqa Jariya project** outside of Iraq to generate income to support orphaned children living in poverty.

Al-Ayn has facilitated several wills which have had legacies bestowed to Al-Ayn.



Get in touch
to order
your free will
writing guide!



مؤسسة العين للإغاثة والتنمية



Our Future

At Al-Ayn, we are always striving to make the biggest impact with our work, making your donations truly transformative. We are honoured to be trusted by so many thousands across the UK, which is something that we do not take for granted.

As such, we aim to improve and exceed industry standards year on year, regularly reviewing our processes and identifying room to increase our transparency, efficiency and impact. Our plans include increasing sustainability of our income, self-sustainability in terms of our expenditure, and expanding our reach further across the globe. Combined, this will not only make your giving more impactful and support efforts toward our vision of a world without poverty, but also further enhance our efficiency.

“

Your service to orphans and your care for them is the most precious thing you offer to your hereafter and the most beautiful thing you do in your world.

His Eminence Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani

Did you know?

We have new fundraising offices opening in Austria, Finland, and France!



Get In Touch



www.alayn.co.uk



020 3719 5221



enquiries@alayn.co.uk



Follow us on @alaynuk

Support Our Mission



BANK DETAILS:

Account Name: Al-Ayn | Account No: 20315753 | Sort Code: 20-35-93

Please use the relevant donation reference when donating via bank transfer. To confirm the status of your bank transfer after the donation has been made, please visit:

www.alayn.co.uk/bankconfirmation

Specify the country you would like your donation to go towards by adding the following reference:

ANY (Any Country)

IRQ (Iraq)

AFG (Afghanistan)

GHA (Ghana)

General Donation: **AYN GEN**

Orphaned Children Fund: **AYN OCF**

Educational Support: **AYN EDU**

Medical Support: **AYN MED**

Khums (Both Parts): **AYN KHB***

Khums (Sahm Al-Imam): **AYN KHI***

Khums (Sahm Al-Sada): **AYN KHS***

Operational Costs: **AYN GWF**

* Donation causes marked with an asterisk can only be allocated to Iraq and Afghanistan.



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

England and Wales Registered Charity Number 1163706



AL-AYN
SOCIAL CARE FOUNDATION