

Celebrating two decades of
transformation and empowerment

About Al-Ayn

Al-Ayn UK is a member of Al-Ayn International, the Global Al-Ayn Federation - an umbrella body with a growing network of members in more than fourteen countries. Our presence across Europe, North America, West Asia, and Africa demonstrates a simple principle: the challenges faced by orphaned children are global, and so must be the response.

At Al-Ayn, our model of care is rooted in research, expertise, and compassion. From monthly financial aid and housing support, to quality healthcare, psychological rehabilitation, and vocational training, every programme is designed to address both immediate needs and long-term development.

As part of this coordinated effort, Al-Ayn UK contributes to and strengthens a system that mobilises resources, raises awareness, and ensures that orphaned children are never forgotten. Together with our international partners, we are building a sustainable model of care that has already transformed tens of thousands of lives.



UK | USA | Australia | Belgium | Denmark | Canada | France | Germany
Norway | Netherlands | Sweden | Switzerland | Ghana | Iraq | Afghanistan

Marking Two Decades of Service and Transformation

Twenty years ago, Al-Ayn began as a small but determined effort to reach families facing immense hardship and uncertainty. At that time, countless orphaned children were living without reliable support, and their futures were marked by instability and fear. What began as an act of compassion soon grew into something far greater - a mission rooted in empowerment, dignity, and long-term care.

Today, Al-Ayn is recognised internationally as a leader in the welfare of orphaned children. Since 2006, we have supported more than 200,000 children and their families; children who have healed from trauma, returned to school, accessed life-saving medical treatment, found stability in safe homes, and discovered joy in spaces created just for them. Each number tells a story of resilience, of lives transformed by compassion sustained over decades.

Our impact has always extended beyond immediate aid. While emergency support is essential, true transformation requires rebuilding lives with care that is both expert-led and tailored to each child's unique needs. Al-Ayn specialises in post-conflict recovery and long-term development, recognising that orphaned children face complex challenges that demand more than short-term relief - they demand comprehensive, sustained solutions.

Every service we provide, from financial assistance to medical care and psychological support, is designed with the utmost care by field experts. At the heart of our approach is a model rooted in rigorous research, developed to ensure that no child under our care remains below the poverty line. This foundation has shaped our sponsorship system and continues to guide our long-term vision for sustainable, dignified support.

Psychologists trained in trauma care help children process grief and rebuild their confidence. Medical professionals deliver high-quality treatment, from life-saving surgeries abroad when needed, to ongoing care for critical illnesses that would otherwise go untreated. Education and vocational training programmes are carefully structured to equip children with the knowledge and skills to break cycles of poverty and stand on their own feet.

This expert-led approach is what makes our work not only compassionate but effective. In Iraq, Afghanistan, and Ghana, our services continue to evolve, shaped by ongoing assessments of children's needs and the realities of their environments. Every intervention is more than an act of relief - it is a carefully planned step towards protecting dignity and building futures that were once thought impossible.

This anniversary is not simply a marker of time, it is a testimony to the power of collective compassion. Volunteers who have given their time, guardians who have entrusted us with the care of their children, and supporters across the globe who have stood by us with their generosity - every achievement in these pages belongs to you.

As we celebrate two decades of impact, we also look to the future with humility and determination. The needs before us remain vast and pressing. Poverty continues to deprive children of basic necessities; illness and lack of healthcare place countless young lives at risk; displacement uproots families and severs access to stability; and trauma leaves scars that cannot be healed with shelter and food alone. These challenges are immense, but they are not insurmountable.

With your continued support, we will keep pushing forward, ensuring that every orphaned child we reach has the chance to grow up safe, healthy, educated, and full of hope.

For us, this is not a vision but a promise: that no child's potential should be lost to circumstances beyond their control.

On behalf of Al-Ayn Social Care Foundation, I extend my sincerest gratitude to all who have been part of this journey. May the next twenty years bring even greater transformation and empowerment.

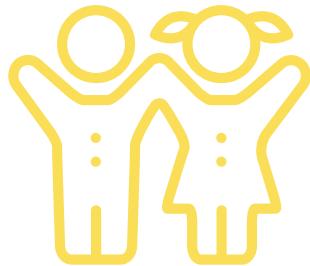
Dr Ahmed Al-Khaja
Director of Al-Ayn UK

20

Years in numbers

Over the past two decades, Al-Ayn has shown that when compassion is sustained, it creates transformation that can be measured in lives, not just in numbers. Every achievement tells a greater story: a child lifted out of poverty, a family finding stability, a community rediscovering hope for the future.

These milestones have reflected not only the scale of our work, but also the trust and generosity of a global family of supporters. Together, we have built a model of care that is both holistic and enduring, reaching tens of thousands of children and families across Iraq, Afghanistan, Ghana, and beyond.



200,000+

orphaned children supported in total



192,000+

medical treatments and consultations facilitated



13

Luminous Stars Centres open in Iraq



1,000+

homes built or refurbished



SCAN TO WATCH OUR **20-YEAR JOURNEY**



26
total United Nations
participations



13
fully-equipped housing
complexes constructed



5,000+
orphaned children lifted out
of poverty in Afghanistan



Hundreds
of children
registered in Ghana



2,000+
global volunteers
joining our mission



3,320+
staff members
worldwide



255
offices in
total



400,000+
food packages delivered
across the regions we serve

Authorisation (Ijaza) from Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani

For over two decades, Al-Ayn has worked under the direct guidance of His Eminence Sayyid Ali Al-Sistani, upholding the highest standards of trust and accountability.

This encompasses his authorisation (Ijaza) for Al-Ayn to receive religious dues including Khums (both parts), Sadaqa, Zakat, Kaffarah, and Fidya, in addition to encouraging supporters to donate towards Al-Ayn's various projects.

Every donation is monitored, every penny accounted for, and every child's needs carefully followed up.

**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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2006 → 2011 → 2013 → 2014 → 2015 → 2016 →

Al-Ayn is founded in Iraq, documenting the victims of terrorism and beginning its journey of care.

Al-Ayn's first European branch opens in Sweden, marking the start of a global network of support.

The UK office launches, expanding outreach and donor engagement.

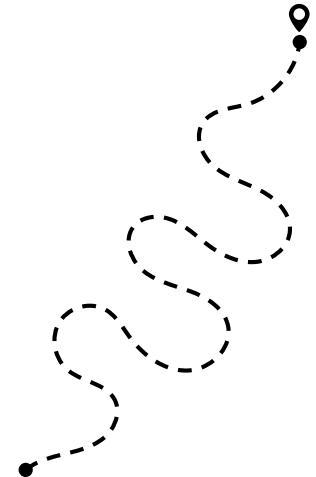
The Norway office opens, strengthening Al-Ayn's presence across Europe.

Offices open in the USA, Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands, building a truly international presence.

Canada and Australia join the Al-Ayn family, widening global sponsorship opportunities.

Our Journey:

Two decades of transformation



Al-Ayn's journey began in 2006 in Iraq, with our earliest work documenting the victims of terrorism and supporting their families. From those first steps, the organisation developed into a provider of structured care for orphaned children.

Over time, our work expanded from emergency relief to long-term services that address children's daily needs and future opportunities. In 2018, we opened our first Luminous Stars Centre - a major milestone in our growth.

By 2026, with thirteen centres across Iraq and more than 110,000 children registered, Al-Ayn has grown into an international organisation, reaching thousands across multiple regions.



→ 2018 → 2021 → 2022 → 2023 → 2024 → 2025

The first Luminous Stars Centre opens in Kadhimiyah, Iraq, a flagship project providing holistic care.

Switzerland office opens, and Al-Ayn begins operations in Afghanistan.

Expansion reaches Africa with the launch of programmes in Ghana, alongside the opening of an office in Belgium.

The Hikayati Centre in Najaf was inaugurated in 2023, marking twenty years since the Iraq war.

Private sponsorships extend beyond Iraq, giving supporters the opportunity to support children across regions.

13 Luminous Stars Centres operational across Iraq; France office opens.



2026

Over **110,000** orphaned children registered with Al-Ayn, receiving comprehensive, life-changing support





Sadaqa Jariya Projects

Luminous Stars Centres

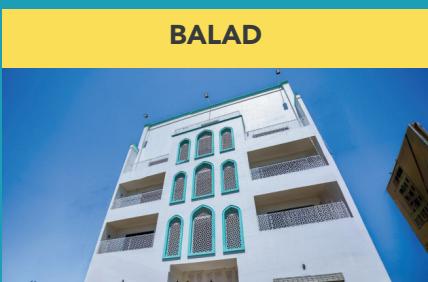
Sadaqa Jariya (ongoing charity) lies at the heart of Al-Ayn's mission to create lasting impact. Over the past twenty years, more than 230 projects have been established across Iraq, transforming derelict land into centres of care, advanced medical facilities, fully-equipped housing complexes, and other specialised centres that continue to serve communities every day.



NAJAF



BAGHDAD



BALAD



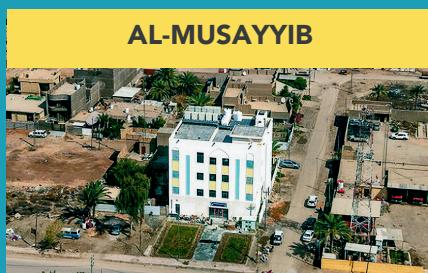
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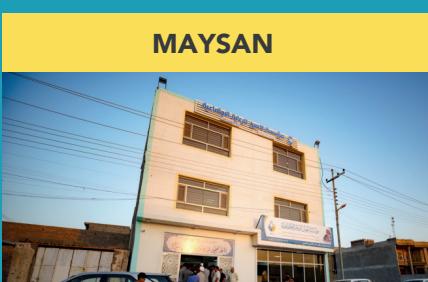
BASRA



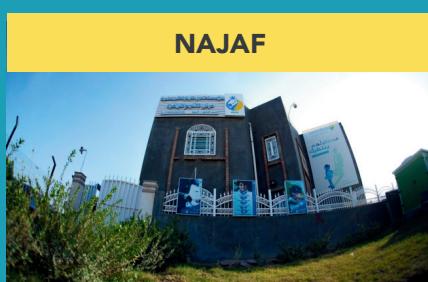
AL-MUSAYYIB



KADHIMIYYA



MAYSAN



NAJAF



BASRA



MUTHANNA



AL-DIWANIYAH



The Hikayati Centre

📍 Najaf

The Hikayati Centre provides a safe space for children to access mental health support, mentorship, and cultural enrichment. It plays a vital role in promoting emotional well-being and personal growth among orphaned children and their families.



Medical Complex

📍 Kadhimiya

Our Medical Complex in Kadhimiya will provide lifesaving healthcare services to vulnerable children and families. The facility will ensure access to quality medical care, helping improve long-term health outcomes and quality of life for thousands.



Housing Complexes

Our Housing Complexes offer safe homes for orphaned children and their families. Each complex is designed to create stability, community, and hope - empowering families to rebuild their lives with security.



Shajarat Tuba Complex

📍 Karbala

The Shajarat Tuba Complex serves as a comprehensive hub for multidimensional care. It stands as a symbol of compassion and empowerment for children and families across Karbala.

Luminous Stars: A Sanctuary of Care

At the heart of Al-Ayn's work stand the Luminous Stars Centres, vibrant hubs where every strand of a child's care comes together under one roof. Since 2018, thirteen centres have opened across Iraq, each serving thousands of children and their families every year. Constantly evolving to meet the needs of their communities, each centre grows with the children it serves.

Depending on its stage of development, a centre may include:

-  Vocational training workshops
-  Educational support services
-  Financial aid distribution points
-  Seasonal aid distribution halls, and more
-  Free shopping malls for orphaned children
-  Safe recreational spaces for children
-  Specialised psychological rehabilitation programmes
-  Fully equipped medical clinics





In 2025, three new centres opened in Babil, Maysan, and Balad.

More than facilities, Luminous Stars Centres are sanctuaries where children can rebuild and begin to thrive again.

Sadaqa Boxes

Lifting Orphaned Children Out of Poverty

One of Al-Ayn's most well-known initiatives is its Sadaqa Box. With special authorisation from Al-Sayyid Al-Sistani, money placed in an Al-Ayn Sadaqa Box is classed as "received charity" (Sadaqa Maqbootha).

This means that the giver receives the spiritual reward of Sadaqa instantly, just as if the donation were handed directly to a person in need or their guardian.

Providing Vital Support to Orphaned Children

Sadaqa donations also allow us to provide vital, life-changing support for orphaned children and their families. Through your contributions, we were able to:

- Meet essential living needs
- Provide monthly financial stipends
- Cover critical medical and surgical expenses
- Offer housing support, including rent assistance and home repairs
- Provide new clothing and shoes throughout the year

Al-Ayn is also dedicated to ensuring that electronic Sadaqa given through our website or app is recognised as Sadaqa Maqbootha (received charity) promptly, allowing supporters to receive the full reward of their giving without delay.

Please see our website for further details.

In 2025, we exchanged over 1 million full Sadaqa Boxes. The donations from these, together with general contributions, helped support thousands of orphaned children in need



A Network of Support

For over 20 years, our community of supporters has continued to grow, extending across the globe and standing as a lifeline for orphaned children, widowed mothers, and vulnerable communities who rely on consistent compassion and care.

Across our network of fundraising offices, this support is brought to life every day through dedicated outreach and engagement. From community events and awareness campaigns, to partnerships with mosques and centres - our teams work endlessly to create meaningful opportunities for people to give, learn, and advocate. These offices serve as vibrant hubs of connection - strengthening relationships, building trust, and ensuring that support reaches those who need it most with consistency and reliability.

Our fundraising and outreach efforts include:

- **Community events** that bring people together to support orphaned children with compassion and purpose.
- **Awareness and educational campaigns** that strengthen public understanding of the challenges faced by vulnerable families.
- **Collaborations** with Mosques, community centres, schools, and organisations to expand our reach and engage new supporters during peak seasons
- **Volunteer-led initiatives** that strengthen local connections
- **Local advocacy** and presentations that share real stories, highlight impact, and inspire sustained commitment.

This work not only mobilises vital resources, but shapes a compassionate momentum that sustains our mission across borders.

Through every contribution, prayer, and act of solidarity, our supporters have helped transform hardship into hope, ensuring that those in need are seen, valued, and given the chance to build a promising future.



Local Events and Community Engagement

At Al-Ayn, we regularly organise events and workshops for our communities. Here are a few of the events that took place in 2025!





Sponsorship Programme

A Model of Long-Term Care

At the heart of Al-Ayn's work is our sponsorship programme - one of the most comprehensive and far-reaching initiatives of its kind. Unlike short-term interventions, our approach is designed to provide sustained, long-term care, giving orphaned children the security they need to heal, grow, and thrive. Guided by experts in child welfare, we ensure every child's needs are met with professionalism and compassion.

Al-Ayn's sponsorship programme was first pioneered in Iraq, where it has become one of the most successful and trusted models of long-term care for orphaned children. Building on this success, the same approach has since been closely replicated in Afghanistan and Ghana, where it is already transforming lives. Each sponsorship guarantees monthly financial aid, entrusted directly to the child's legal guardian. This support allows families to meet essential needs with dignity – from food and clothing to school expenses and healthcare – while ensuring stability and continuity in the child's upbringing.

Support Beyond Sponsorship

For children who are not privately sponsored, Sadaqa donations and other religious dues play a vital role. These funds are channelled directly into programmes that lift orphaned children out of poverty, ensuring that no child is left behind. Whether through private sponsorship or collective giving, every contribution becomes part of a life-changing safety net.

Leading in High-Risk Regions

Delivering such comprehensive care in high-risk regions is not without challenges. Yet Al-Ayn has become a trusted leader in this field, reaching children in conflict-affected and impoverished areas. Our sponsorship model is more than financial support-it is a commitment to safeguarding childhood, restoring stability, and building futures in some of the world's most difficult contexts.





A Voice of Hope: Hanaa's Story

"After my father died, I had lost one of my biggest supporters..."

Hanaa, one of the orphaned children under Al-Ayn's care in Iraq, has carried her grief with courage and determination. Through sponsorship, she was given the tools to continue her journey. Today, she is studying at the College of Pharmacy, getting closer every day to achieving her dream of becoming a pharmacist.

For Hanaa, education has been more than learning, it has been a path to endless possibilities. Her story reflects the potential of thousands of children we support, and the power of your kindness to transform loss into opportunity.

Al-Ayn in Afghanistan



In 2021, Al-Ayn began its work in Afghanistan,

a country where decades of conflict, instability, and economic collapse have left families in dire need. More than half of the population lives below the poverty line, and children are disproportionately affected. Orphaned children are often the most vulnerable of all, lacking consistent access to basic essentials. Many families are forced to make impossible choices between survival needs.

Al-Ayn's programmes in Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif were established to respond to these urgent realities. Today, we provide:

- Monthly financial aid to thousands of registered families, covering the basic needs of orphaned children
- Medical care, including access to treatment that would otherwise be unaffordable
- Food packages and nutritional support to combat malnutrition



In 2022, Al-Ayn expanded into Ghana,

where poverty and inequality continue to place immense pressure on children, despite national economic growth. Around one in four children live below the poverty line, and in urban centres like Accra, orphaned children are especially vulnerable to neglect, exploitation, and exclusion from education.

Al-Ayn's work in Ghana focuses on building a foundation of security for these children.

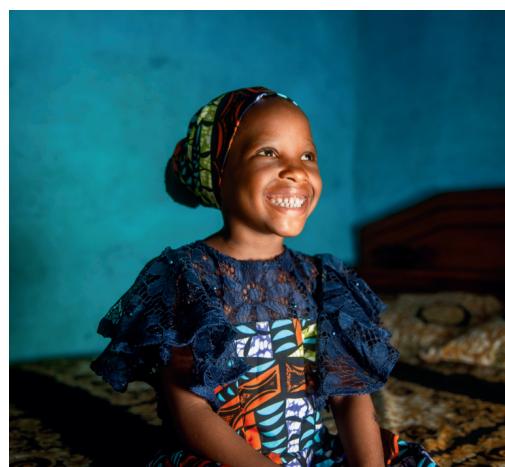
Through targeted programmes, we deliver:

- Financial support for orphaned children and their guardians
- Access to healthcare and medicine in communities where services are limited
- Education support and child-focused initiatives that keep children learning and safe

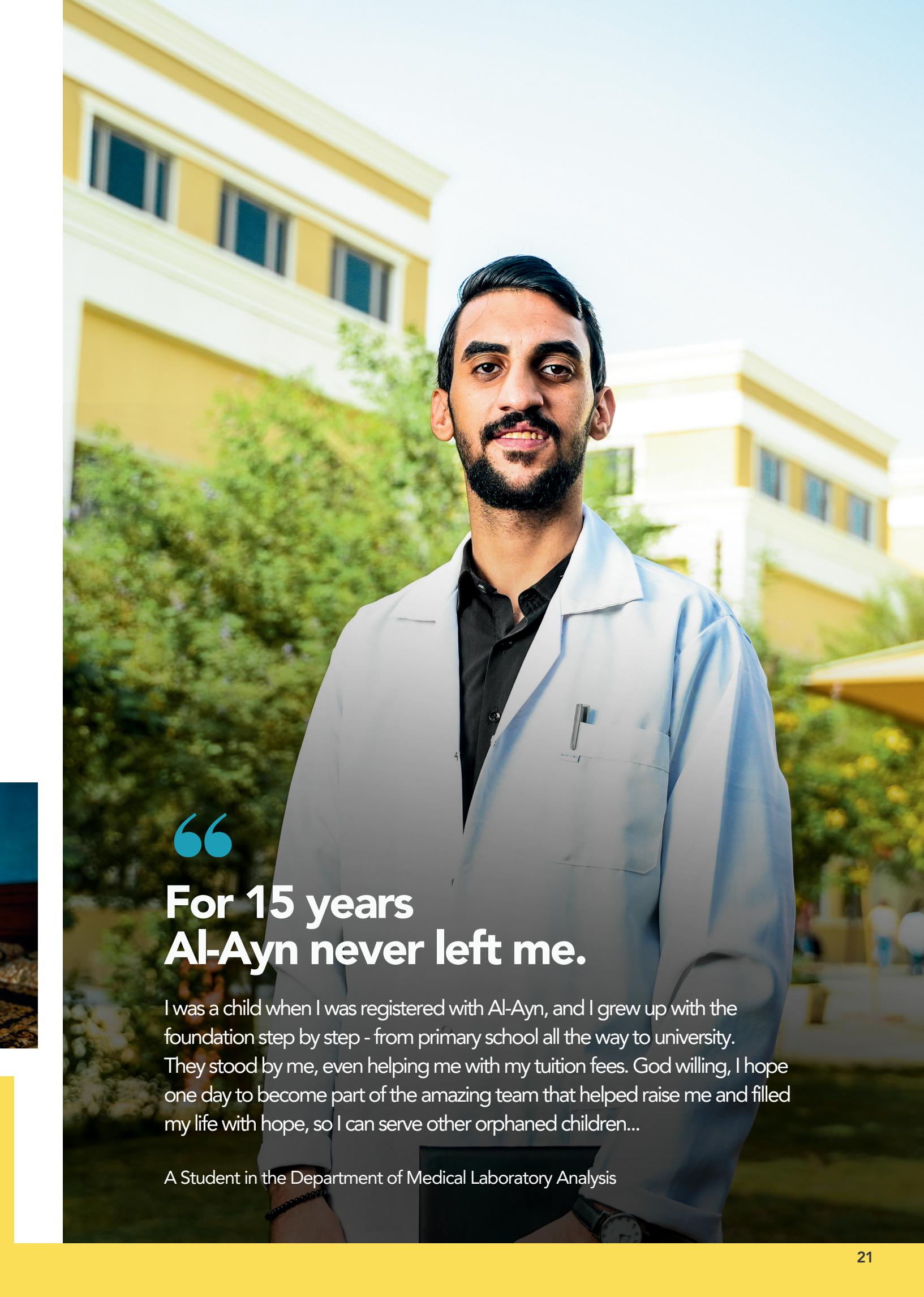
Wherever the need is greatest, our mission remains the same: to ensure no child is left behind.



Al-Ayn in Ghana



In 2025, we welcomed 3,577 newly registered orphaned children in Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif, along with 139 children registered in Ghana - each now connected to vital support and care.



“
**For 15 years
Al-Ayn never left me.**

I was a child when I was registered with Al-Ayn, and I grew up with the foundation step by step - from primary school all the way to university. They stood by me, even helping me with my tuition fees. God willing, I hope one day to become part of the amazing team that helped raise me and filled my life with hope, so I can serve other orphaned children...

A Student in the Department of Medical Laboratory Analysis

Restoring Health, Restoring Hope

Facilitating Access to Quality Healthcare in Iraq

For many orphaned children, the greatest threat is not only poverty but untreated illness and unhealed trauma. Without access to healthcare, even preventable conditions can become life-threatening, and the scars of grief can weigh heavily on young lives.

At the heart of this effort is our dedicated Medical Complex, which ensures children and families with chronic or life-threatening conditions, including cancer, receive continuous care. Where specialised treatment is required, we connect patients with leading medical providers and help shoulder the financial burden, so that no child is left untreated because of cost or circumstance. This holistic approach combines advanced medical expertise with compassion, creating a safety net for those facing the most daunting health challenges.



Enhancing Healthcare Access in Afghanistan and Ghana

Beyond Iraq, Al-Ayn extends a lifeline to orphaned children and widowed mothers in Afghanistan and Ghana, ensuring that when complex illness strikes, help is at hand. The heavy costs of transportation, accommodation, and advanced medical treatment are lifted from families already living in hardship, allowing them to access the care that can change, and even, save lives.

This support has enabled access to life-saving surgeries and long-term treatment for some of the most challenging medical cases, including bone and joint deformities, breast cancer, renal disease, brain tumours, sickle cell disease, hydronephrosis, pneumonia and more. For many, this intervention is the difference between prolonged illness and the possibility of recovery, stability, and a healthier future.



Since 2006, Al-Ayn has responded to this need by providing treatment for over 192,000 medical cases, including more than 2,800 life-changing surgeries - from complex, high-risk operations carried out abroad to vital procedures within Iraq.

In 2025, Al-Ayn facilitated treatment for 9 complex medical cases in Ghana and 58 cases in Afghanistan.

Equally vital is psychological care. Through our specialised rehabilitation services within the Luminous Stars Centres, more than 5,000 children have been supported to overcome trauma, process grief, and begin to rebuild their strength - with over 3,400 continuing treatment today.

At the heart of this effort is the Hikayati Centre in Najaf, a dedicated safe space where children can share their stories, receive one-to-one counselling, and participate in activities that nurture self-expression and healing. Here, professional psychologists trained in trauma care guide children gently through their recovery, giving them tools to cope and to grow. Since opening, more than 3,675 children have visited the Hikayati Centre.

This support does not stand alone. Our holistic programmes - from access to healthcare to continued education and vocational training - also strengthen mental wellbeing. When a child receives medical treatment, attends school with the right resources, or develops new skills for the future, they gain more than physical care or knowledge: they regain stability, security, and a sense of self-worth.

For children who have lost so much, these interventions restore confidence and open pathways to secure futures. For countless families, this is more than healthcare. It is survival. It is the reassurance that their child's life matters, and that they are not alone.

Prioritising Mental Wellbeing





2025: A Year of Achievement for Three Sisters

These three sisters, orphaned at a young age continue to turn challenges into milestones of success. In 2025, Ayat proudly graduated with an exceptional grade in English. Miqaat advanced to her second year at the College of Pharmacy, while Fatima is preparing to take the next important step in her academic journey.

Their achievements serve as a powerful reminder that with the right support, guidance, and perseverance, orphaned children can rise above every obstacle and move confidently toward a brighter, more promising future.



Our Voices for 20 Years

From the children whose lives have been transformed, to the volunteers, staff, and supporters who stand beside them, these voices capture the essence of Al-Ayn's journey. Each one speaks of gratitude and possibility.

Together, they form a powerful testament to what twenty years of care and commitment can achieve.

"Since becoming a sponsor of two orphaned children, I feel an indescribable peace of mind and blessing in our home. I pray God keeps this with us always."

A Sponsor living in Iraq

"It is a true blessing to work for such a pure cause that I genuinely believe in. I believe this work is important because, no matter how small, every bit of support makes a difference in the lives of orphaned children."

Mohammed Hussein, Staff Member

"Before I registered with Al-Ayn, I would have to think whether to buy food or buy medicine for my children. Now, I have all the help I need and I'm grateful to God for this blessing he has given us."

Nahilatu, Widowed Mother in Ghana

"When I was orphaned, Al-Ayn took care of me and supported me every step of the way. Now I'm a dentist, and I sponsor children like I once was, making sure their needs are met so they can succeed too."

Hind, Dentist and Sponsor in Iraq

"We have faced many challenges since my husband passed away, but the support from Al-Ayn helps me look after my children so they can enjoy their childhood. Everyday I feel at peace."

Abigail, Widowed mother in Ghana

"I've worked with Al-Ayn for over a decade, and it's truly a fulfilling journey. Working with like-minded people united by a shared vision is an honour. The impact and grassroots spirit behind this movement inspires me daily."

Zainab, Staff Member

"What made me volunteer with Al-Ayn was the saying of the Holy Prophet (saww) about caring for the orphaned. Since joining, my life has changed and has brought me and my family blessings. I treat the orphaned children like they are my own."

Volunteer Doctor in Iraq

"I am a mother of six, and Al-Ayn has been supporting us for over three years. Whenever my children were sick, Al-Ayn was there, even delivering aid to our home. This support has truly changed our lives."

Widowed Mother in Afghanistan

"Working at Al-Ayn gives me a sense of purpose. To know that even one child's life is being changed for the better is a blessing that keeps me committed. It fills my heart to see hope return to thousands."

Afreen, Staff Member

"As a mother, my greatest dream is to see all four of my daughters achieve their aspirations. With Al-Ayn's support, I feel hopeful that they can succeed and build the future they dream of."

Widowed Mother in Ghana

"I've been at Al-Ayn for 3 years and it's been the best career shift I could have imagined! The feeling that my daily work results in a child having a better future is worth more than anything else I could possibly do!"

Sharmin, Staff Member

"I was overjoyed when I was accepted to further my education, but my mother and I worried about how we would manage the costs. Then, once again, Allah opened a door and the team in Ghana stepped in to support my studies."

Zeinab, Orphaned Child in Ghana

"Al-Ayn is like my second home. The foundation took care of me for 15 years until I entered university. In the future once I'm qualified, I will join Al-Ayn and serve other orphaned children."

Medical Student in Iraq

"I feel truly blessed working here. Many people want to help others but don't always have the time or opportunity. We are fortunate that our work itself allows us to support those in need and gain blessings."

Hasnain, Staff Member



"For the past year, Al-Ayn has supported my family. After my husband passed away, we faced many difficulties, but their help brought us relief. We are truly grateful, and we pray for Al-Ayn always."

Widowed Mother in Afghanistan

"Ten years ago, I was very sick and diagnosed with a malignant tumour. Al-Ayn supported me with medical tests and treatment. Today, I am healthy, working with Al-Ayn as a photographer, and I speak with orphaned children to give them hope for the future."

Photographer at Al-Ayn Iraq

"Since registering with Al-Ayn in 2023, our life has become easier. We receive monthly financial aid and special support throughout the year which has given us stability as a family."

Widowed Mother in Ghana

"After Al-Ayn began supporting me, they helped with my school fees and study costs. Now I don't feel worried or anxious anymore. I always think my father would be proud of me if he were here."

Orphaned Child in Iraq

Our Vision for the Future

The next twenty years will see Al-Ayn strengthen and broaden its reach, responding to the evolving needs of orphaned children and vulnerable families. We anticipate the establishment of new purpose-built facilities and services, the expansion of our sponsorship model into additional regions, and continued investment in education, healthcare, psychological care, housing, and long-term support for communities in need.

Our vision is not only to meet immediate needs, but to embed systems of care that create stability for generations to come. By combining expert-led services with the solidarity of our global supporters, Al-Ayn will continue to lift children out of poverty, empower families, and build stronger communities across continents.

Above all, our commitment remains: no orphaned child or vulnerable family should ever feel forgotten, no matter where they are.



For two decades, Al-Ayn has stood where orphaned children's needs are greatest - rebuilding lives in the aftermath of conflict, poverty, and loss. In that time, more than 200,000 children have received not just aid, but the foundation for a secure future. Yet beyond every achievement lies a greater responsibility.

Across Iraq, Afghanistan, Ghana, and many other regions, countless children are still waiting, for safety, for stability, for the chance to learn, to heal, and to dream again.

The next twenty years will not be written by Al-Ayn alone. They will be shaped by all of us who choose to act: through volunteering, community events, and local initiatives that bring people together in compassion and purpose. Every moment of service contributes to building futures that would otherwise be impossible.

BE PART OF THE STORY.

Together, we can ensure no orphaned child is left behind.

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