

Edhi Foundation shipment of tents and blankets is on the way from Sydney to Islamabad!

Edhi Foundation with the assistance of fellow Australians has put together a consignment of tents and blankets to the value of \$250,000. It has been air lifted by Qantas to Bangkok, free of charge, where PIA will deliver it to Islamabad.

As most people know, Edhi Foundation is run by Abdul Sattar Edhi, commonly known as Father Teresa of Pakistan and is represented in Australia by Mr Riaz Malik (former Engineer for BHP), Mr Pervaiz Buttar, Proprietor, Buttar Caldwell Solicitors and Mr Zia Qureshi, CEO, Business Catalyst International.

Edhi Foundation has remarkable achievements. It runs a large range of welfare services, emphasising self-help principles for people in Pakistan and other third world countries by instilling in ordinary citizens a consistent desire to participate in public welfare. A notable fact about Edhi is that it emphasises the importance of safeguarding the basic human rights, regardless of religion, caste or creed, "My religion is humanitarianism..... which is the basis of every religion in this world".



Mr Riaz Malik and Mr Zia Qureshi, Edhi Foundation members with the Tent City and Qantas Freight Team

This is a very valuable contribution in opening the minds of certain fundamentalists who fail to understand the spirit of their own religion.

Edhi Foundation would like to thank the Pakistani community, fellow Australians, Qantas and Tent City for their contribution and making this shipment possible. Last but not least a big thank you to the Islamic society of Western suburbs for their very generous donations.

Mr Buttar said that he is most pleased with various offers he has received for fund raising activities from Pakistani, Indians and Australians. "Everyone wants to help us".

“I am satisfied with our initial effort, but we must do more and I know the whole community from the subcontinent and Australians are keen to make a greater contribution. We are looking at various fund raising efforts including a dinner function soon to be announced.

The situation on the ground is getting worse not better. This is not surprising given the magnitude and scale of the disaster and the weather conditions are turning. The human suffering is massive. The government is doing its best, Edhi Foundation network is fully stretched, people from around the world are helping, thousands of Pakistani people have adopted a hands-on approach to help the victims..... but its not enough, so please spare a thought when you are lying in your comfortable bed at night - what is it like for the people who have lost everything, in a flash, I mean everything and are fighting to survive..... and with God's will and your help they may. This is not only a big test for the victims but also all of us. PLEASE HELP MORE. ”



Mr Pervaiz Buttar

Mr Pervaiz Buttar

Mr Abdul Sattar Edhi, talking to Mr Riaz Malik from the field said he was pleased that we are able to deliver what's needed the most, tents and blankets. Mr Malik said he is just happy that we have been able to make a small contribution with our limited resources. He said that if everyone rolls up their sleeves and does something little, you can get some big outcomes.

“I would like to see many other fellow community members help with the next few fund raising events as the problem facing Pakistan is not going to be solved overnight. Edhi Foundation has been in there for the long haul and is highly respected for its work and achievements.”

Mr Riaz Malik



Mr Riaz Malik and Zia Qureshi demonstrating Edhi's hands-on approach

“It's amazing what a few quick phone calls can do to get things lined up, but it's the detailed work that makes such an effort a great success and the credit for that goes to my fellow directors, Justin Kerley from the Tent City, Ayesha Qureshi, who spent days researching the tents and their availability and Ms Hatice Kaynak who was responsible for co-ordinating the project. Finally a big thanks to Qantas who immediately said yes! We will help and co-ordinate with the Pakistan International Airlines. Given PIA's workload and commitments, it took a great effort from Mr Nouman Munir, General Manager, PIA to make it all happen.”

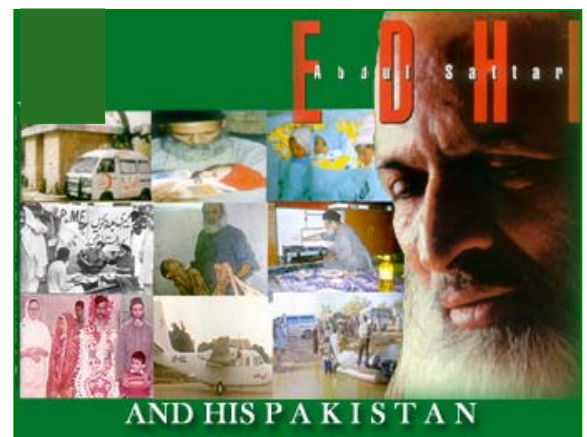
Mr Zia Qureshi



Justin Kerley, Tent City and Riaz Malik of Edhi Foundation at the Qantas Freight Terminal

Edhi Foundation's activities include a 24 hours emergency service across the country through 250 Edhi centres which provide free shrouding and burial of unclaimed dead bodies, shelter for the destitute, orphans and handicapped persons, free hospitals and dispensaries, rehabilitation of drug addicts, free wheel chairs, crutches and other services for the handicapped, family planning counselling and maternity services, national and international relief efforts for the victims.

Currently the Foundation is a home for over 6,000 destitutes, runaways and mentally ill, and it provides transportation to over 1,000,000 persons annually to the hospitals, in addition to other wide-ranging services.



**PLEASE DONATE GENEROUSLY
THERE IS STILL A HUGE EFFORT REQUIRED**



Donations can be made directly to: Abdul Sattar, Edhi International Foundation - ANZ Bank - BSB: 012 069 - Acct No: 25531888

Edhi Foundation: www.paks.net/edhi-foundation/