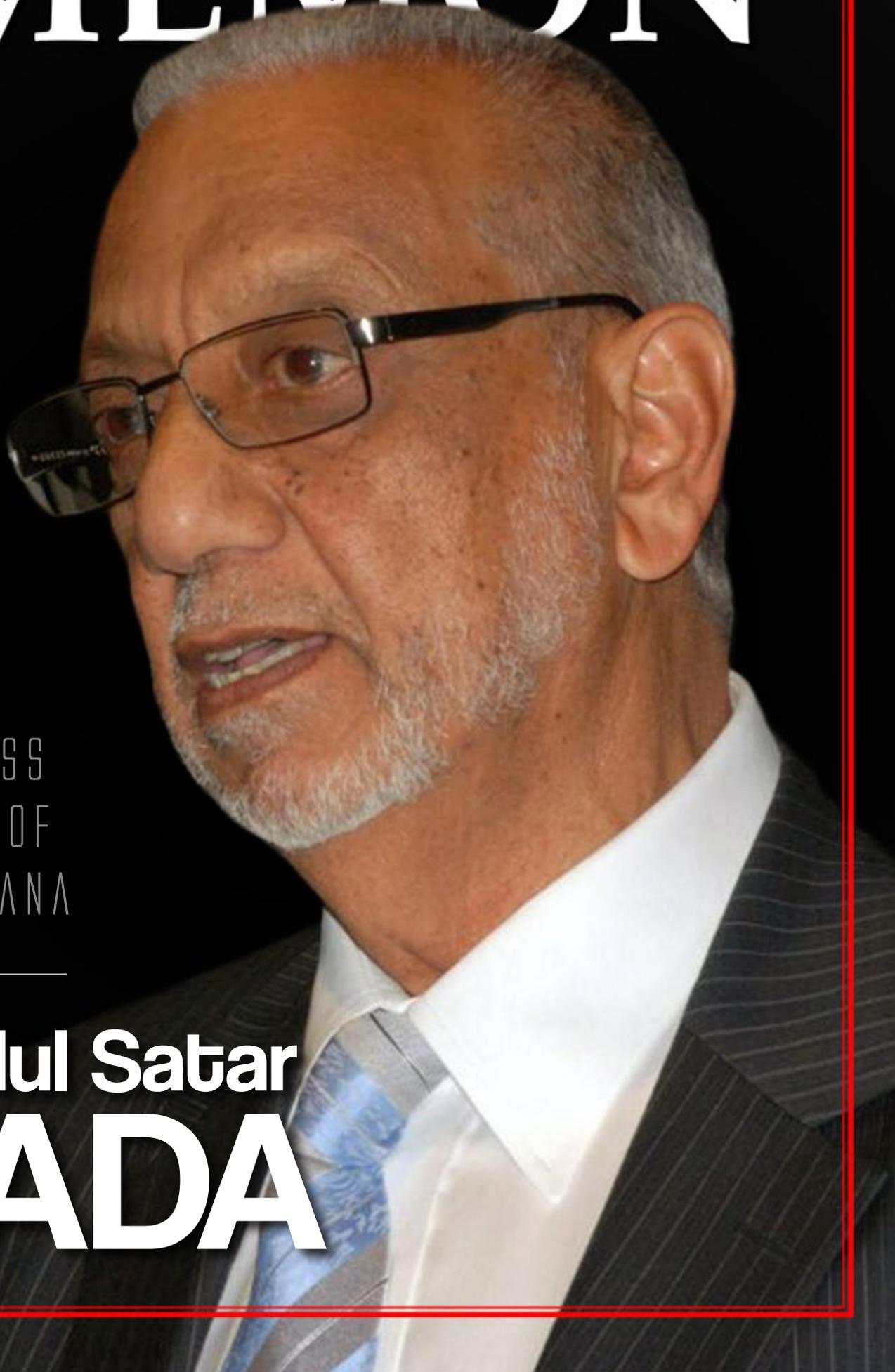


# THE MEMON

BUSINESS  
BARON OF  
BOTSWANA

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Abdul Satar  
**DADA**



# THE MEMON

## Ramadan Kareem



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I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our compassionate brothers and sisters for their magnanimous generosity and steadfast support towards the World Memon Organisation in the Holy month of Ramadan.

Helping those in need is one of the key aspects of this pious month of mercy. And Zakat (that which purifies) is a religious obligation for all Muslims who meet the necessary criteria of wealth. As one of the Five Pillars of Islam, Zakat can lead us to a more productive and successful existence, both as an individual and a community.

Giving charity is not just crucial for the well being of the needy but could be the greatest boon bestowed upon the wealthy.

As Allah (swt) states in the Holy Quran (At-Tawbah 9:103):

خُذْ مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِمْ بِهَا وَصَلِّ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ صَلَاتَكَ سَكَنٌ لَهُمْ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿١٠٣﴾

**“Take from their wealth, alms so that you may cleanse them, thereby and cause them to grow in purity and supplicate for them”**

This verse clearly informs us that charity purifies a person in a number of ways:

1. It **purifies ones property in a SPIRITUAL** sense by making it more blessed and legitimate;
2. It **purifies the heart of the GIVER** from selfishness, greed, materialism and lack of concern for fellow human beings;
3. It **purifies the heart of the RECIPIENT** from jealousy and hatred for those who possess more than them;
4. And lastly, it **purifies SOCIETY** from social injustices and class struggles.

May Allah (Exalted be He) make us among those who give! May He enable us to understand and fulfill our obligation of Zakat, thereby incurring His mercy and pleasure.

On behalf of my wife Zohra, my family and myself - we wish each and everyone of you a very blessed Eid and may the rest of the year be a healthy, happy, peaceful and prosperous one.

Ameen.

*Yours sincerely*

**Suliman Noor Mahomed**  
President, World Memon Organization

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# Ramadan Kareem

*“The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the Way of Allah, is as the likeness of a grain (of corn); it grows seven ears, and each ear has a hundred grains. Allah gives manifold increase to whom He pleases. And Allah is All-Sufficient for His creatures’ needs, All-Knower.”*

~ Holy Qur’an (2:261)

THE blessed month of Ramadan is a month of mercy and generosity. In keeping with the bountiful spirit of giving in Ramadan, there were extensive, admirable campaigns undertaken by various chapters of WMO to provide food, shelter and clothing to our less fortunate brothers and sisters across the globe.



## Feed The Fasting

*And they give food, for the love of Him, to the Miskeen (the poor) and the orphan. Saying: ‘We feed you seeking Allah’s Countenance only. We wish for no reward, nor thanks from you.*

In the Ramadan of 2015, the World Memon Organisation, Middle East Chapter served Iftar meals for the entire duration of the holy month. A camp was set up in Dubai and 37,500 Muslim brothers were provided meals for 30 days as they gathered together to break their fast under one roof.

These brothers are mostly poor migrant workers employed in the bustling Middle East construction industry. They toil laboriously throughout the day, without food and water, building skyscrapers that will soon adorn the Dubai skyline whilst religiously fasting under the hot desert sun.

Since then the Ramadan Iftar Camp has become an annual feature on the WMO Middle East Chapter Calendar. This year two camps have been set up at Sonapur and Dubai Investment Park. 75,000 meals will be distributed during the 30 day tenure.

PepsiCo International has joined hands with the World Memon Organisation for the admirable cause of the Ramadan Iftar Camp, in yet another example of a prestigious multinational, endorsing

and offering steadfast support to the Global Humanitarian Endeavours of WMO.

Mr Mahmood Shaikhani, stalwart of WMO Middle East Chapter has pioneered the project along with other distinguished members of WMO who have given steadfast support to this commendable campaign. Mr. Shaikhani has firmly cemented the bond with PepsiCo International, taking this wonderful collaboration, one step further to organise another camp - the third, in Ajmaan next year. We intend to serve a hundred thousand meals in 2017. Insha-Allah.



# Purposeful Giving

On the 12th June 2016, the World Memon Organization [Africa Chapter] & Purposeful Giving once again visited the Itireleng community, which is an informal settlement on the doorstep of Laudium. This has become one of our annual Ramadhaan projects and we have built strong ties with this community who are very appreciative when we visit.

The community still lacks the basic everyday necessities and we can only make dua that Allah (SWT) enables us to continue with our endeavours. Hopefully we will soon make a difference in the lives of these wonderful people.

The following items were distributed:

- 50 party packs to the children
- 50 chicken Licken meals for the children
- 80 hygiene packs
- 80 grocery packs
- 80 packs of toilet rolls
- 80 bags of oranges
- Loaves of bread
- 2 Deghs of Food

Special mention of Zafreen Feizul Ayob-Carim and her team for their tireless endeavours towards this admirable cause.



# Shelter for Humanity

After a Ramadhaan visit to the Klipspruit area by Mr. Moosa Carrim (Patron) and Mr. Haroun Gutta (ASG) of the WMO Africa Chapter, we found that there was a great need for a shelter, which could accommodate the orphans and the elderly who were homeless. Apa Latiefa; a very well-known and respected woman in the community has been managing a charitable organisation supported by WMO and various other Muslim organisations.

After witnessing the dismal conditions these residents were currently living in, we decided to improve them with the donation of a mobile unit. The unit consisted of 8 rooms, a kitchen, a dining area and a make shift lounge. This unit has been purchased by WMO at a costs of approx R250,000.00 and was promptly delivered.

We hope that it will provide the much needed comfort and support to the deserving. Inshaa Allah.

**May Allah(swt) bless Moosa Carrim Bha and his family who has made a substantial contribution towards this project in the mubaarak month of Ramadhaan.**

We look forward to our next visit to Klipspruit where we hope to meet the occupants of the shelter as well as assist with the hamper distributions to the community. Inshaa Allah.



The Youth wing of India Chapter donated 12 ceiling fans, 300 books and eatables as part of our education initiative during Ramadan.

AD Bawla orphanage (Versova, Mumbai) houses 220 young Muslim girls. Some as young as 3-4 years old who have no family to call their own.

This is part of India youth campaign of upgrading and helping as many orphanages as we can over the next 6 months.

## WMO Monsoon Relief Initiative



WMO Youth wing India Chapter carried out the yearly distribution of tarpaulins (taal-patri) to poor families of cancer patients outside TATA Hospital (Parel, Mumbai)

The afflicted travel from different parts of the country for treatment for themselves or their families and are forced to live on the streets due to lack of funds and rising medical costs.

It is our humble attempt to provide some relief from the torrential rains and make their lives just a little bit easier.



### HOSPITAL VISIT

Youth wing India chapter distributed fruit packets to 150 patients at Saboo Siddique hospital in Mumbai.

From an 85 year old women to young mothers, suffering children to men with terminal illnesses. Initiatives like these remind us constantly to be thankful for our health, that we often take for granted and realise how fortunate we are.

**May Allah accept our endeavours in this blessed month.**

# Ramadan Food Ration



Alhamdulillah, the WMO Far East Chapter distributed 2470 Food Ration Packs during The Blessed Month of Ramadan.

About 450 Parcels were distributed to the poor and deserving families of the Memon community and the rest to the underprivileged Muslim Families in Colombo and surrounding areas.

We also distributed 1000 bags of 10 kg rice in the village of Muttur.

The funds for the admirable initiative were generously

contributed by Memons in Colombo, Sri Lanka as well as our brothers residing in Singapore and Dubai.

The total contribution was Sri Lankan Rupees 15,179,900 (USD 104,000)

We are grateful to our donors who supported the worthy cause in the Blessed Month of Ramadan.

**May Allah Subhana wata'ala reward their kindness and accept our humble endeavours.**

**Ameen!**



**“ Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value.”**

*~ Albert Einstein*

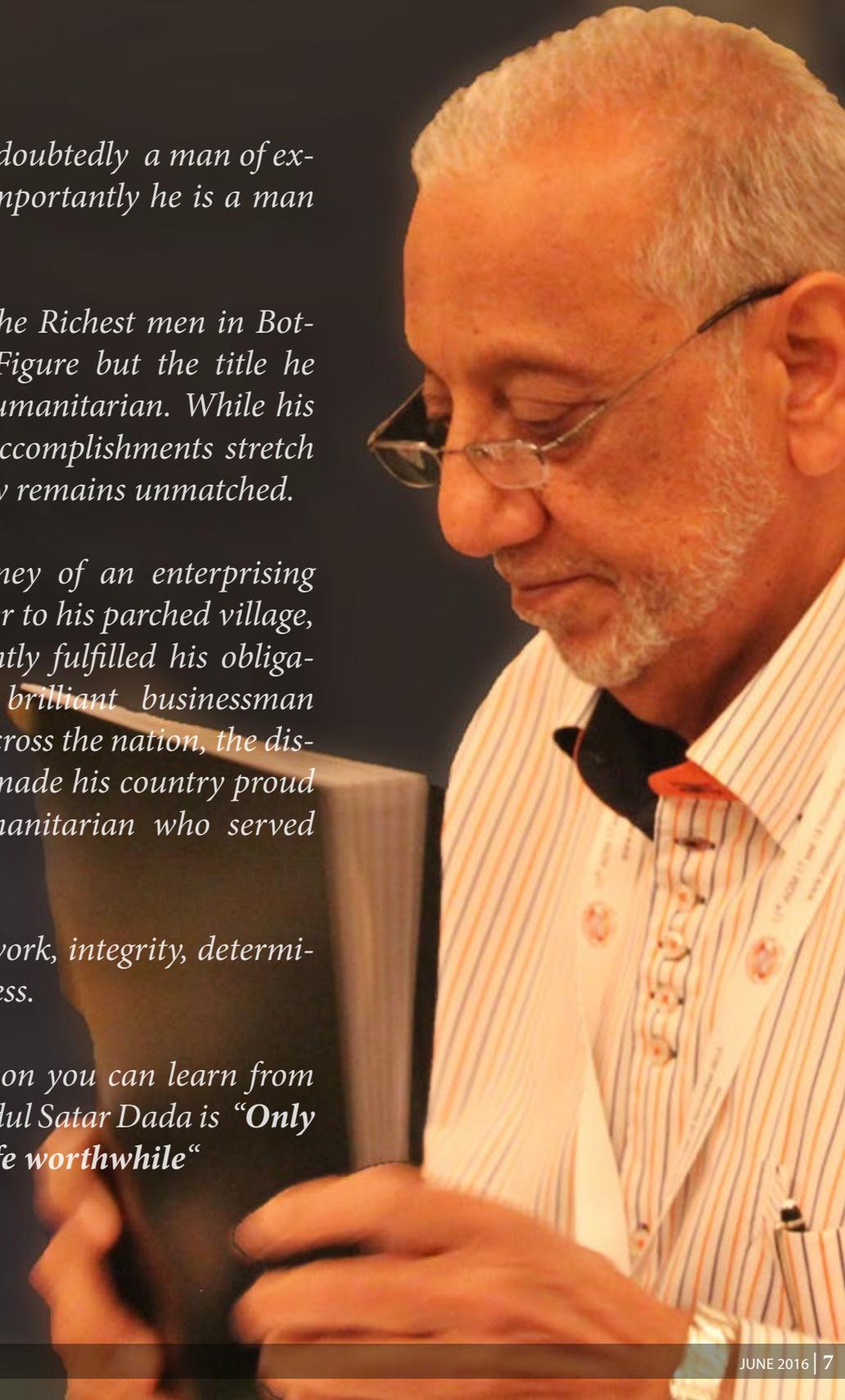
*Mr. Abdul Satar Dada is undoubtedly a man of extraordinary success, more importantly he is a man of exceptional value.*

*Baron of Industry, One of the Richest men in Botswana, Powerful Political Figure but the title he would gladly settle for is Humanitarian. While his impressive list of business accomplishments stretch a fair distance, his generosity remains unmatched.*

*This is the incredible journey of an enterprising young lad who brought water to his parched village, the councillor who diligently fulfilled his obligations towards his town, the brilliant businessman who uplifted communities across the nation, the distinguished statesman who made his country proud and the benevolent humanitarian who served mankind across the globe.*

*This is also a story of hard work, integrity, determination and astounding success.*

*But the most important lesson you can learn from the fascinating life of Mr. Abdul Satar Dada is “Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile”*



## THE BUSINESS BARON OF BOTSWANA

So you have landed in Botswana, Southern Africa. You take a cab to your hotel, unpack, order breakfast and enjoy a fluffy omelette with your grilled chicken sandwich. As you glance over the headlines in the local paper, your cell phone rings and you rush to meet your business associate in Gaborone.

Let's sum up how Mr Abdul Satar Dada has influenced your very first hour in Botswana.

The eggs, the newspaper, the cab, the call and even the chicken could be courtesy, Associated Investment Development Corporation (AIDC)

The AIDC Group corporate portfolio boasts a diverse range of investments, encompassing motor vehicle dealerships, printing and publishing, steel merchandising, aircraft sales and charter, real estate and property management, poultry farming ,feed production and telecommunications.

From one small retail outlet in 1962 to the Associated Investment Development Corporation (AIDC), a mammoth and hugely-successful business conglomerate. Such is the long road travelled by AIDC Chairman, Mr. Abdul Satar Dada and is testament to his extraordinary business acumen and entrepreneurial enterprise.

## THE ENTREPRENEUR

Unleashing a talent for spotting business opportunities and identifying gaps in existing markets, combined with the ability to put in place sound management systems, Mr. Dada ventured into new vehicle sales, acquiring along the way, franchise rights to such prestigious marques as Toyota, Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Jaguar, Land Rover amongst others.

He then made further investments into other vastly differing economic sectors, including property development and agriculture.

The rest, as they say, is history. By 1990, the prestigious home-grown Motor Centre Group merged with the other companies and the AIDC conglomerate was born. With calculated investment risks, AIDC has now further expanded into other countries, currently South Africa, the Middle East, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

AIDC gives testament to the fact that with passion, vision and the dutiful following of good business ethics, a private citizen enterprise can become one of the greatest contributors to national growth and development.



*Mr Satar Dada (Chairman of University of Botswana) with Former President of Botswana, His Excellency Quett Ketumile Joni Masire at one of the Fund Raising Gala Dinners*

## THE COMMUNITY MAN

True to the spirit of the AIDC Group that the community is the soul that drives the day to day operations of a business, the company is intently involved in an array of social developmental activities in every province of the country where it has a presence.

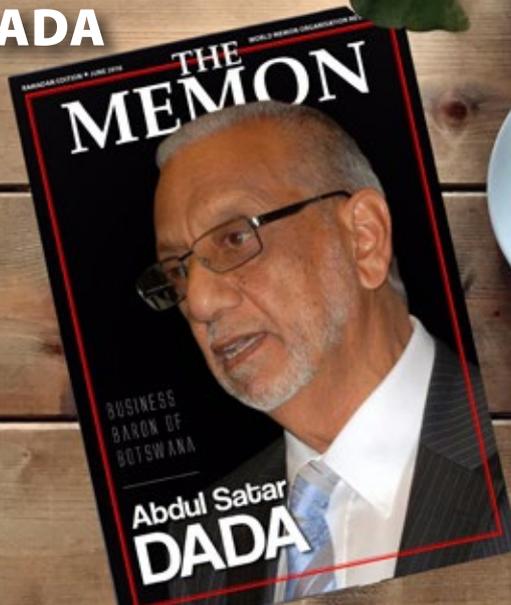
The AIDC conglomerate is committed towards Community work and actively initiates charitable and assistance projects across the whole spectrum of society. It is currently immersed in a number of projects for the upliftment of under-privileged communities, promoting and supporting sports, helping the poor and needy, offering assistance to the infirm and disabled as well as providing housing for the destitute.

The Group has also had a huge impact in the field of public health, first by building and donating a fully-equipped reproductive health clinic in Bontleng and now by the construction of two further clinics in the villages of Kanye and Molepolole.

The commendable corporate responsibility programmes are a tangible tribute to the humanitarian heart of Chairman Abdul Satar Dada.

# The Q&A

**ABDUL SATAR DADA**



**Q: WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU BORN?**

I was born on the 9th of January 1940 in Moshupa, a village in the Southern Region of Botswana.

**Q: WHAT ARE YOUR EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORIES?**

I can only remember the days in Zeerust, South Africa where my parents settled, as there were no border controls then. Apart from the fact that we hail from Porbander, India I have no other memory.

**Q: WHAT KIND OF WORK DID YOUR PARENTS DO?**

My father had a shop. He was a soft and kind hearted person who lost his business due to his compassionate nature as people took advantage of him.

**Q: WHAT KIND OF HARDSHIPS DID YOUR FAMILY EXPERIENCE WHILE YOU WERE GROWING UP?**

At the tender age of 9, we were struck with grief due to the passing away of my father - this was the beginning of the many challenges that lay ahead. With hardly any savings and 6 little mouths to feed, my uncles relocated us to Lichtenberg in order to offer financial security and support. My mother had to augment the income by teaching Madressah classes at home.

*“ Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts. ”*

**Q: WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?**

At the age of 15, whilst still at school I decided to work the afternoons in a café to assist my mother with household expenses.

Life was difficult as we had to make ends meet on a monthly basis. I started to make Islamic frames in the evenings for the extra income. I then changed jobs and joined a large department store but we were still struggling to put food on the table. It was at that time that I decided to try my luck at business and moved to Botswana to convince my uncles to assist me in opening a shop.

That did not materialise but I kept trying. I also approached a family group in South Africa who helped people to set up shop by supplying merchandise on a soft loan basis but since I was young and had nothing to back me up, this resulted in another failure.



WITH THE LATE ZAYNUB DADA

**Q: What was one of your most defining moments in life? The turning point.**

My friend and I finally came across a small retail shop in Kanye which had run into financial difficulties. We negotiated on a rental for the shop and agreed to pay off the creditors. I assured the creditors that I would settle their debt if I was given reasonable time and further supply of merchandise to which they agreed and it was hard work from there on.

This is really where the journey started.

I worked long hours. After closing the shop, I used to travel to nearby villages to collect goods and return

late at night to off load and pack for the store, so that I'd be ready for the morning grind. The hard work paid off and business flourished. This prompted me to run a wholesale department side by side which also gained momentum. I ventured next into flora and fauna as our store was ideally located on the way to the Kalahari Desert.

It was during this time that a new business opportunity presented itself – customers would enquire about the availability of motor

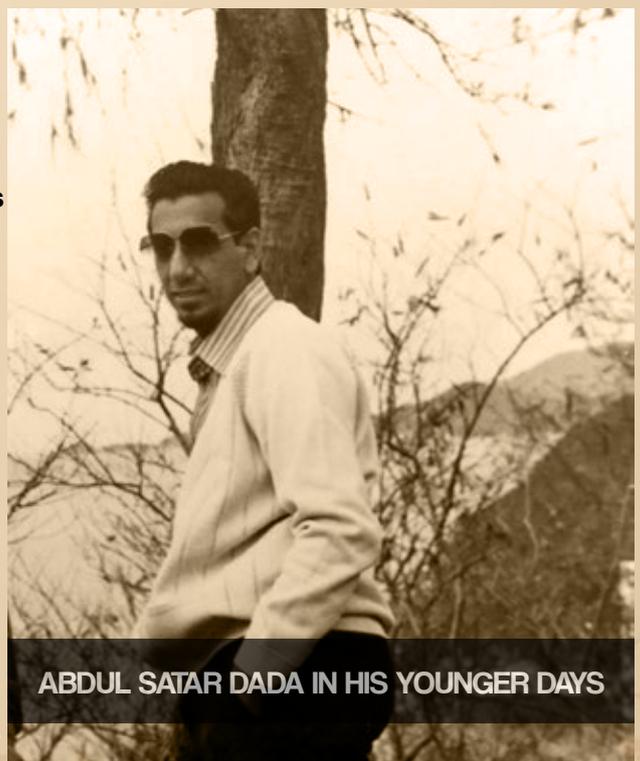
vehicles for sale. I would then source the vehicles and sell directly to the customer. Eventually a second hand dealership came into being.

My first retail shop was the corner stone of all my future business ventures. It was my life altering moment.

**Q: When did you get married and tell us a bit about your family?**

With a thriving business, I was now ready for marriage and married Zaynub in 1962. We had a very good married life which lasted 50 years. We have 2 sons and a daughter, all married and 13 grandchildren. My wife worked very hard, she managed the shop when I was away, and she was always there for me and stood by me during the difficult times.

Sadly in 2013, Zaynub passed on leaving a huge void in my life. As the Almighty Allah SWT in the holy Quran reminds us that with every difficulty comes ease... I was fortunate enough to find a dynamic and likeminded lady to share my life with – Ayesha Jhaveri from Durban. She has once again brought warmth and light into our home. She is loved by all including my family and friends. I couldn't be happier.



ABDUL SATAR DADA IN HIS YOUNGER DAYS

**Q: You are one of the most distinguished business personalities of Botswana and a giant of industry. Tell us a little bit about your business empire and its diversified interests.**

In 1974 – The family moved to Gaborone, Botswana to enable our children to attend school. After acquiring the engineering business, I searched for a vehicle franchise and decided on Toyota as the Motor Vehicle trade was taking off. An opportunity arose for the Toyota franchise, although the brand itself was not very popular. After tough negotiations I was successfully awarded the Toyota Franchise in the December of 1975. Then in 1978 I got my first order from the Government. That really got the ball rolling and I never looked back.

With the correct business management skills and employment principles, additional franchises and dealerships were added. My weekends were spent travelling to oversee the respective business operations.

This was only the beginning.

Through determination and the will to succeed I ventured into construction, engineering, chicken rearing and distribution, printing and publishing, real estate, agriculture, pharmaceutical, live stock farming and telecommunications amongst others.

I am a person who likes to make things happen. I am aggressive and when the opportunity arises, I don't hold back. Mobile networks were a relatively new field at that time but I had the fore-



MR. SATAR DADA AND SON, YUSUF DADA RECEIVING AN AWARD FROM AUTOMOBILE MAKERS TOYOTA.

sight to explore its vast potential and today, as chairman of Orange Botswana, I am glad that I trusted my instincts and added telecommunications to the AIDC portfolio.

“Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.” I firmly believe in those words.

I took calculated risks. A few of my ventures didn't get the desired results but I persevered till I knew I had given it my all, irrespective of success or failure.

Along the way, we have been rewarded for our hardwork. Our company has won numerous awards, testament to our success from automobile makers Toyota and Mercedes for excellence in Sales and Services.

**Q: What is the secret of your success?**

I couldn't have achieved what I did, had it not been for the blessings and barakah from our Creator. Allah (SWT) has given me the strength, good health, a loving family and dedicated employees.

I ventured into many projects

as I had the energy, stamina and determination to succeed. I was motivated and always yearned to make things happen. I craved the excitement of a new business prospect, had vision, trusted my gut feeling and grabbed the opportunities when they were presented to me.

Not all of them were successes, I had a few failures. But each failure was a stepping stone to success.

Always remember that, “Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

My success lies in honesty, hard work, perseverance and taking calculated risks. Running a vast business empire needs the right team and I always took care of my employees. I give them good incentives and in certain cases equity in the business to motivate them as they are an integral part of my success story. I carved a niche for myself in the field of Business because of our considerable and enormous credibility which we carefully and painstakingly built over the years- both as an individual and a conglomerate.



MR SATAR DADA WITH PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA, HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUTENANT GENERAL SERETSE KHAMA IAN KHAMA. HANDING OVER OF CLINIC DONATED BY A. S. DADA FOUNDATION

**Q: Tell us about your foray, journey and role in the social and political arena of Botswana.**

From a young age, whilst still in Kanye it was in my blood to assist whenever I could and my first challenge was when the village faced scarcity of water. The water had to be brought in from a few kilometres, and although there were pipes lying around, there was no one to take the initiative to connect them. After taking requisite permissions from the local authorities to install, we connected the pipes with assistance from the locals and finally brought water to the village. This incident had a ripple effect and people started to call on me regularly, for all forms of assistance.

When we achieved independence in 1966, I was nominated as a Councillor from the Southern Dis-

trict Council for 5 years. Thereafter I stood in the General Election and was elected, unopposed until 1974, the year I moved to Gaborone. I served on various organisations to make a difference to people's lives. I was once again nominated to the Gaborone City Council and served on many committees namely finance, licensing, amongst others and got involved in various organisations which served the community.

**COUNCIL DAYS IN KANYE**

This was my first public appointment and a learning curve. At times, meetings would last for days and I had to fulfil both my business and political responsibilities to the best of my abilities hence time management was crucial.

**COUNCIL DAYS IN GABORONE**

Having just started a new business it was a difficult balancing act but it had to be done.

**NATIONAL TREASURER**

Due to my involvement in the Council I attended regular party meetings and it was then that the ruling Botswana Democratic Party members pushed me to stand for Deputy Treasurer.

In 1990 I was elected unopposed as the Deputy Treasurer of the BDP and later as National Treasurer, a post which I continue to hold to date.

**PARLIAMENT**

After the 1994 General Election the President called upon me and appointed me as a specially elected Member of Parliament. I was actively involved in various Parliamentary committees during my term and diligently fulfilled my responsibilities for the next 5 years.

I enjoy Politics and world affairs.

**Q You are a generous benefactor to many charities and a renowned philanthropist. Talk to us about the innumerable Humanitarian causes that you support both in Botswana and around the globe.**

We are all here on earth to help others hence I participate in every opportunity to serve mankind. I believe that Allah (SWT) has created us to be ambassadors of His good work therefore my role and responsibility do not end till we have contributed and assisted those in need.

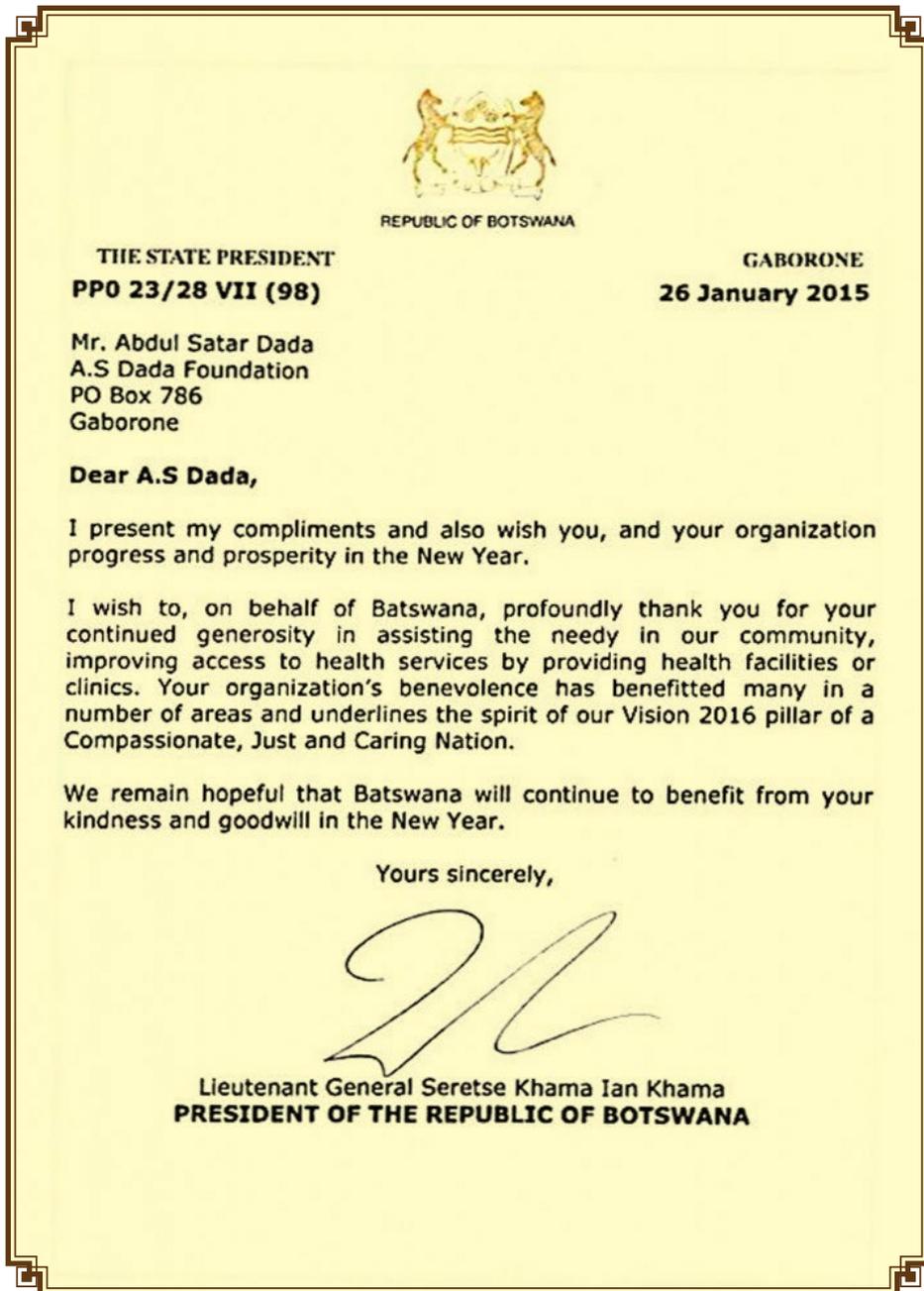
Under the AS Dada foundation, we are building clinics and homes, donating blankets, clothes, wheelchairs amongst many other essential items to the less fortunate. Through the University of Botswana Foundation, we provide bursaries and scholarships to deserving students every year in our endeavour to promote education at all levels across the country.

I also serve on many charitable organisations and associations.

**BOTSWANA MUSLIM ASSOCIATION**

I took part in the affairs of the Jamaat during the early days in the 1960s and then as an active member, rose through the ranks.

I was elected Treasurer of the Botswana Muslim Association (BMA) and later as President of



*Mr. A.S Dada, Ex-President of the World Memon Organisation & Chairman of the A.S Dada Foundation, was awarded the “Presidential Order of Meritorious Service”, by the President of the Republic of Botswana*

the BMA, a post which I continue to hold to date. To serve the Association was very interesting with most weekends, involving meeting and discussing the affairs of the Jamaat and solving the problems faced by its people.

I now serve as chairman of the University of Botswana Foundation Board. I am also the Director and Deputy chair for the Botswana Railways Board, Chairman of

President’s Housing Appeal and Patron of Disabled Organization. We accomplished building the 600th home for the underprivileged on 4th June 2016, under the President’s Housing Appeal. All 600 houses were constructed from funds donated by the private sector and civil society.

This was indeed a milestone achievement! We hope to reach the 1000th home soon.

## WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION

My participation in WMO began in 2001 with the first meeting which was called in Dubai by the 5 founding members - Hajee Saheb, Adam Noor, Razaak Tasty, Ebrahim Latif Jamal and Aboobaker Kassim. Wherein it was decided to form the WMO. Then the second meeting was held where the serious business was conducted, leading to the birth of WMO in 2002. Until then, my involvement was limited, as just another member from Africa. I then became a trustee and got engaged in the affairs of the Organisation. I had a very good relationship with all our Trustees, Patrons and members and it has been a fascinating journey.

The first President elect was ARY Gandhi popularly known as Hajee Saab. He was one of the founder members and his commitment to the cause of worldwide advancement of the Memon community, was absolute. During his tenure, we shared a close relationship and he always consulted me on matters of the Community. He was the main pillar of support, a magnanimous donor and single handedly built a global network for the furtherance of WMO.

In 2011, I was elected as the 2nd President of the WMO, a very challenging position as I had big shoes to fill. To keep in touch with 7 chapters was itself a task. Shahid Sangani and myself kept a weekly consultation to attend to issues concerning the Chapters.

We carried on with the good work done by Haji Saheb and continued with our global humanitarian endeavours to make a difference in the lives of millions around the world.

Although I had another term I decided to retire and handover the position to someone younger and more energetic.

**Q: When all is said and done, what do you want to be remembered for? Explain what you are doing now to create a legacy worthy of remembering.**

I believe if you help others achieve their dreams, then you will achieve yours.

I remember as a young lad trying to set up shop but facing disappointment as nobody came to my assistance. I always wanted to right that wrong and bring about a change.

It's my constant endeavour to empower the local citizens of Botswana.

As an empowering tool I established an organisation called The Business Place in collaboration with Investec Bank, the Government and other corporate companies to provide business training to the citizens of Botswana, enabling them to stand on their feet. The organisation has benefited many young individuals by helping them set up their own business enterprise. This was done under the auspices of the University of Botswana Foundation at no cost to those who seek counsel and assistance. The Institute provides

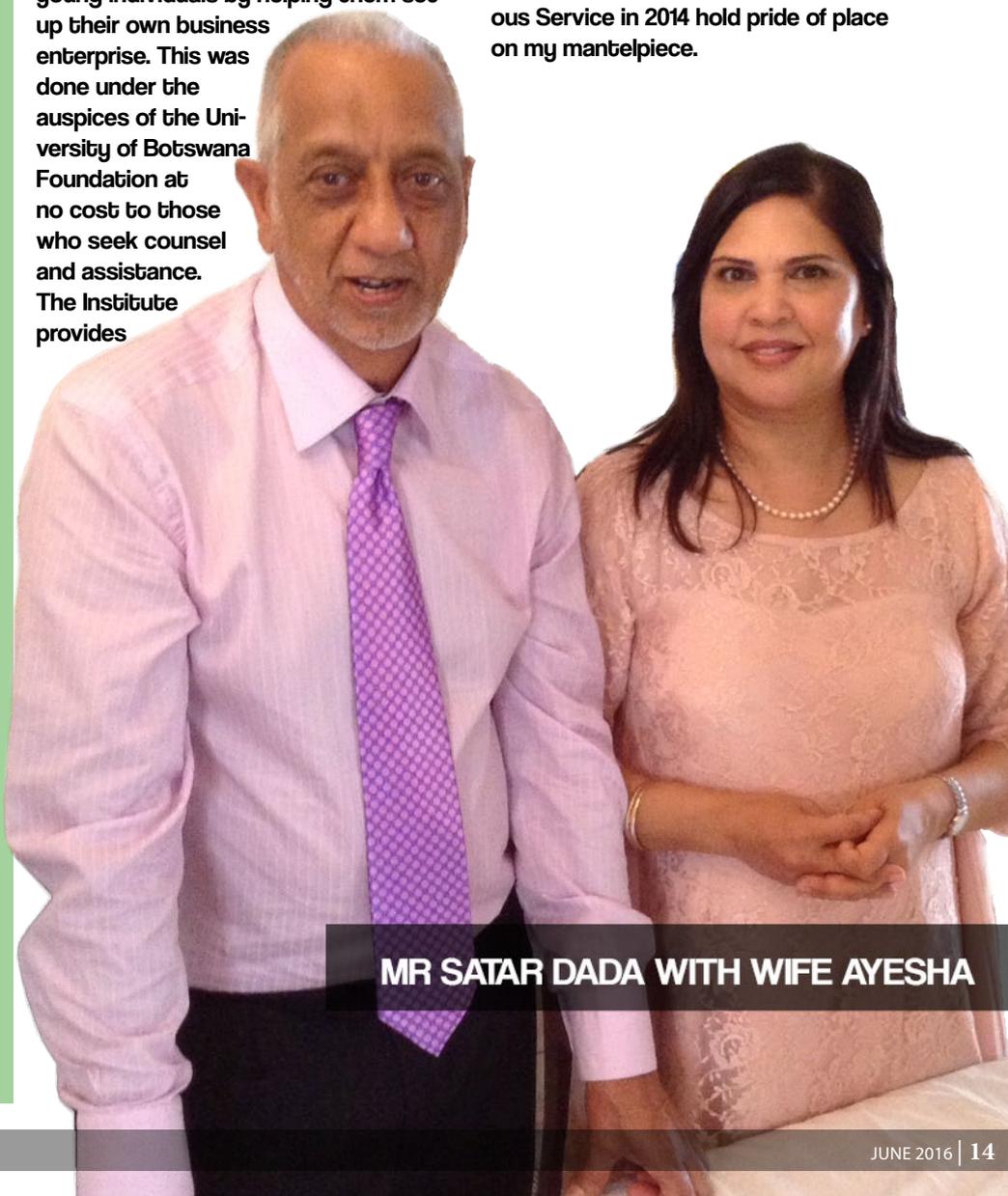
courses in Finance, Business Management and Work Ethics.

It has been my lifelong ambition to partner with young, local entrepreneurs in joint business ventures. I enjoy getting involved in any project at infancy and once successful to hand it over to others to run it.

We also provide employment to over 2,000 members in our group of companies.

**Q: You have received many awards during your lifetime. Which are the ones that hold a special place in your trophy cabinet?**

I have been the recipient of many awards in the business field from automobile makers Toyota, Mercedes amongst others and have been honoured by various organisations in society. But the two Presidential awards, the Presidential Order of Honour in 1991 and the Presidential Order of Meritorious Service in 2014 hold pride of place on my mantelpiece.



MR SATAR DADA WITH WIFE AYESHA

# The Kashmir Project

There are few places in the world as beautiful as Kashmir. There are few places in the world as turbulent as Kashmir.

The white snow capped mountains turned crimson, as the region got engulfed in territorial conflict since 1947, the year which marked the Partition of India and Pakistan. Both countries have waged wars over Kashmir. Hundreds of thousands have died since, and each year countless, innocent inhabitants are critically injured as the valley continues to succumb to militancy and terrorism.

## **HELP (Human Effort for Love and Peace) Foundation of Jammu and Kashmir**

HELP is an NGO established in 1997 by Nighat Shafi. It was set up with the objective of assisting the victims of the devastating violence in strife torn Kashmir. The organisation began its work in the field of education and health care. Revival of age old tradition, culture and programs for women empower-

ment were subsequently introduced.

With a team of dedicated trustees, volunteers and staff, HELP Foundation conducts camps and events wherein the afflicted are given free check ups, consultation, medicine and are provided multiple health care services. The organisation has penetrated deep into rural Kashmir where the impoverished locals need them most.

## **Birth of the Kashmir Project**

A collaborative project between the World Memon Organisation and Help Foundation was proposed by Noorain Fayz Latif, daughter of Mrs. Maimoona Hassan Darvesh to Fazila AK Ismail - President, WMO International Ladies Wing. On hearing about the wonderful work and services offered by the HELP Foundation in one of the most sensitive regions of the World, the International Ladies Wing (ILW) committee found themselves very drawn to the project and eager to get involved.



ILW on being made aware of the situation on the ground, endeavoured to extend a helping hand and conducted a needs analysis, which resulted in identifying a greater want for an ambulance service.

The Ladies Wing of the Africa Chapter committed themselves to raise the required funds to purchase an ambulance and thereafter there was no looking back.



## The Ambulance

The ambulance is now used for emergency purposes, visiting the intervening areas and units of the HELP Foundation scattered across the Kashmir Valley. In addition to this, if any vulnerable case is identified and there is a need for immediate hospital care; the ambulance is available to take the patient to the nearest medical facility. The services of the ambulance are also offered to various hospitals: SMHS Hospital, Bone and Joint Hospital Srinagar, LD Hospital Srinagar and CHILDLINE.



As the siren pierces the air and the ambulance penetrates deep into the heart of a valley, gone silent under curfew. A grievously injured child is rushed to the nearest hospital, the victim of another mindless act of terror is saved in the nick of time. It's just another day for the World Memon Organisation, reaching to the far corners of the World, fulfilling its endeavours of Serving Mankind. The shiny beacon, atop the ambulance brings a glimmer of hope to a land, plunging deeper into Satan's dark abyss. A land, ironically, once called Heaven on Earth.



# THINK WISE 2016

WMO Youth Wing Pakistan Chapter, held its signature event Think Wise on May 29, 2016 at the Karachi School of Business and Leadership Auditorium. Staying true to its tradition, youth wing PC yet again brought something different to the table. '**Agar Tum Chaho (If you endeavor)**', was the theme of the Think Wise 2016. This year the aim was to encourage the young minds of Memon community to highlight the problems within the community and suggest solutions.

This was the first time when the participants were actually involved in the whole event and had to brainstorm ideas and come up with solutions to the myriad problems, affecting the Memon community in Pakistan. The idea behind "**Agar Tum Chaho**" as the name indicates was to encourage the youth of the community to be the agents of change and plunge headlong into conducting painstaking research and then proposing solutions to the various problems plaguing our community. It encouraged them to think, take ownership and be responsible.

Think Wise 2016 was a research based presentation competition in which there were eight teams who competed for a prize of 10,000 Rupees. It was followed by a motivational talk and then a theatre performance.

The WMO team came up with eight different topics that reverberated with the Memon community. The advantage Pakistan chapter has, is that the Memon community does extensive social work in Pakistan. Memons have their own community hospitals, educational institutes, vocational training institutes and several community organizations that are constantly involved in providing welfare services. This allowed us to come up with issues that pertain to the social services and community. It also gave us a wide range of subjects that could be explored and studied. We therefore identified the following eight topics.

PRESENTATION TOPICS	YOUTH WING MENTORS
1. Dowry	Rehana Hanif Gabrani
2. Community Educational Institutions	Dr. Aqib Javed Vayani
3. Female Education	Abdul Haseeb Vayani / Dania Hanif
4. Early Marriages	Altaf Vayani
5. Inter Communities Collaboration	Khubaib Poonawala
6. Community Hospitals	Faisal Abdul Baqi
7. Preservation of Community Infrastructure	Jawwad Arif Choksi
8. Preservation of Memon Culture	Ammar Moten

The next step was to look for brilliant Memon youngsters who would be then expected to do research on these topics. The purpose was to get them involved in the study of different issues, enable them to explore the problems themselves and to introduce them to real concerns. Research was therefore considered as the best strategy that would compel them to investigate. We held an orientation session one week before the actual event where the participants were given a brief training session on how to conduct research. They were also taught presentation techniques and public speaking methods. This training session was conducted in a classroom environment where they learnt the basic tools of research and public speaking. The participants were then assigned their topics and each team was also given a mentor from the Central Executive committee of the youth wing. The mentor's responsibility was to guide their teams and help them out during the research process. Our CEC members in their role of mentors were constantly engaged with the teams and helped them in their research as well as preparation of the presentations.

The youth wing at Pakistan has a tradition of maintaining team spirit. This event was one more manifestation of this. This event was led by Abdul Haseeb Vayani under the guidance of the chairman Khurram Shehzad. Tasks were distributed among other members. Khubaib Poonawala was the co-lead, presentation segment was managed by Ms. Sumrin and the responsibility of Master of Ceremony was given to Dr. Aqib Javed. The theatrical performance, coordinating with the speaker, arranging the venue, managing the lunch, sponsorship efforts, other logistics etc. were so many tasks that would have been impossible without the input of all CEC members.

On event day, the teams appeared all prepared in formal attire fully geared to win. Each team presented in front of a large audience and a panel of judges. The judges were also carefully selected Memon professionals who have made a mark in the fields of social work, academia and business. These were our judges;



- Ms. Sumera Muhammad**  
 Manager, Skills Development Program-Center for Executive Education and Visiting Faculty at IBA - Institute of Business Administration, Karachi
- Mr. Nasir Aziz**  
 Technical Specialist, General Management, Marketing, Pre and Post Construction Solutions Expert
- Mr. Abid Beli**  
 Entrepreneur - Project Consultant at Akhuwat Foundation- Founder At Madjoint Studios - Partner At China Pak Trade



The presentations by all teams were truly impressive. It was amazing to see the young Memon girls and boys speaking their heart out on the issues of community. They had carefully studied their assigned topics and had come with brilliant solutions.



Although each team gave their best shot, but as in any competition, we had one team which outshone the rest. Their topic was "Community Hospitals". This team had visited community hospitals in Karachi, interviewed key figures and also did a survey that inquired about the services. The team in their presentation highlighted the problems confronting those hospitals and also presented concrete solutions. They were thus crowned as the best team and took home the AGAR TUM CHAHO winner's Medals and a cash award of PKR 10,000.

stan Chapter and the post event success could be seen on social media, where several participants of the event blogged about their experience of being associated with ThinkWise 2016! These participants are not only voicing their admiration but also acknowledging that this event was a learning experience for them.

*Here is the link to one of the blogs: <https://goo.gl/YkXsNz>*

It was a rare opportunity when the youth got a chance to present their own solutions. For years, the Memon community has been dominated by senior members who continue to propose their recommendations and take decisions. This event was a testament to the fact that the young people of today have the required skills as well as the passion to be agents of change. All they need is opportunity and guidance. The WMO PC youth wing is committed to providing them with steadfast support.



After lunch, Mr. Zohair Alibhoy addressed the audience and gave an inspiring talk on how we can all work together to be the change we want to see in this world. He took the theme of Agar Tum Chaho and inspired the audience to believe in themselves and keep trying. His talk centered around the factors that cause failures and how to avoid them.

Since the motto of the WMO Youth Wing Pakistan Chapter is "Fun with Learning" the fun element, after the intense learning session was brought about by Team DramaCulas, who put up a theatrical performance which left the audience in splits! It was a truly captivating performance that gave a beautiful ending to the event.

All in all, it was a thoroughly well thought out, well executed event put together by the WMO Youth Wing Paki-

A very commendable and proud outcome of this event has been that some of the participants are so inspired, that they are aiming to launch social action projects. The whole exercise of researching the problems has given them a chance to be exposed to contexts that otherwise go unnoticed. We at WMO Youth Wing PC are committed to produce an engaged and socially aware generation that is capable of solving its own problems and can contribute to the upliftment of the community.

**AUTHORS**

**Reeda Sheikhani & Abdul Haseeb Vayani**

# The Power of *Words*

*“I have a Dream!”*

~ Martin Luther King

*“Ask not what your country can do  
for you, ask what you can do for your  
country.”*

~ John F Kennedy

*“I have nothing to offer but blood, toil,  
tears, and sweat.”*

~ Winston Churchill

Are these just words?

We beg to differ!

With those iconic words, Martin Luther King started a revolution, John F Kennedy inspired a nation and Winston Churchill won the War. Compelling lines, accentuating powerful speeches have the potency to overthrow Governments, launch movements, motivate armies and deliver victories. Over the centuries, great orators have always had an impact on people's hearts and minds. The Memon Community is blessed to have our very own - Mr. Suliman Noor Mahomed (President - World Memon Organisation)

On the 24th of April, at the WMO South Africa AGM in Pretoria, Mr Solly Noor delivered a rousing speech. As he eloquently calls to God, Country, Community by addressing himself as a devoted Muslim, proud South African and emphatically begins addressing the audience in the Memoni language, a few memorable lines leave a lasting impression.

*“We live by what we are and what the Quran tells us. We have to Care for Mankind.”*

*“This is why WMO was born, to care for those that need it most.”*

*“Allah's work never stops!”*

*“Don't miss the joy, Don't miss the Sawaab that we get from running WMO.”*

If you wanted to join the World Memon Organisation but lacked the motivation. If you wanted to Make a Difference but lacked the impetus. Listen to the inspired oration and let his invigorating words stir you up..

.. to Serve Mankind.



**Mr. Suliman Noor Mahomed**  
*President - World Memon Organisation*

**TOGETHER,  
WE CAN  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE**

**YOU GAVE  
AND WE SERVED  
MANKIND**

**REFLECTION  
2015/16**

REFLECTION  
2015/16

# TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION.

**WMO BELIEVES EDUCATION IS A  
FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT.**

**EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT IN HELPING TO  
IMPROVE LIVES, BREAK THE CYCLE OF  
POVERTY AND ENSURE THAT ALL PEOPLE,  
PARTICULARLY CHILDREN HAVE CONTROL  
OVER THEIR DESTINY.**

**ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL AIMS AND  
OBJECTIVES OF WMO IS TO FACILITATE THE  
PROMOTION OF EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS.**

**EACH YEAR THOUSANDS OF DESERVING  
STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS FROM  
THE WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION AT AN  
ANNUAL COST OF \$ 2.5 MILLION.**

**YOUR ZAKAT CONTRIBUTIONS ENSURE  
A PROPER EDUCATION FOR  
THE CHILDREN AND SHAPE THEIR LIVES.**

**YOUR LEGACY  
WILL BE  
AN EDUCATED  
HEART AND MIND**



# MITI

## TRANSFERRING KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, VALUES AND SKILLS

MEMON INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (MITI) WAS RECENTLY CONFERRED AS THE TOP RANKING VOCATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE IN PAKISTAN BY THE NATIONAL VOCATIONAL & TECHNICAL TRAINING COMMISSION.

THE 1ST PLACE AWARD IS TESTAMENT TO THE VAST STRIDES MITI HAS MADE SINCE ITS INCEPTION.

MITI WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION ON MAY 31ST, 2009. IT IS A VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE YOUTH OFFERING A WIDE VARIETY OF TECHNICAL, IT AND MULTIMEDIA COURSES.

MITI OPENED ITS DOORS WITH JUST 7 TRADES FOR MEN AND TODAY BOASTS OF 6 COURSES IN 31 DISCIPLINES FOR MEN, ALONG WITH 25 FOR WOMEN.

**MITI HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE FLAG BEARER OF THE HUMANITARIAN WORK DONE BY WMO AND OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS TO HUNDREDS OF DESERVING STUDENTS EACH YEAR. OVER 40,000 GRADUATES OF MITI HAVE SECURED EMPLOYMENT OR ARE SELF EMPLOYED.**



# BUILDING HOMES, COMMUNITIES, FAMILIES AND LIVES.

**A SIMPLE DECENT SHELTER IS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT AND A PRIMARY NEED FOR ALL.**

For over a decade the World Memon Organisation has carried out rehabilitation projects, primarily housing which constitutes the corner stone in the well-being of a community.

The organisation works towards the alleviation of poverty in the Memon community by providing homes to our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Housing Projects in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka stand completed in the cities of Hyderabad, Bangalore, Surat, Ahmedabad, Mehkar, Colombo, Sindh and Karachi

More than **A THOUSAND DESERVING RECIPIENTS** are appreciative **HOME OWNERS** under the WMO banner.

Around **2.5 MILLION DOLLARS** are spent each year towards housing.

**YOUR ZAKAT CONTRIBUTIONS GO A LONG WAY IN BRINGING A SMILE ON THE FACES OF THE CHILDREN WHO STAY WARM AND SAFE IN THE CONFINES OF THEIR HOMES, YOU HAVE SO GENEROUSLY PROVIDED.**

# A NEW BEGINNING

“

We all lived in the slums of Mehkar village, surrounded by dust, dirt, disease and death. My husband passed away in 2013, at the age of 29, after a prolonged fight with Tuberculosis. He was an illiterate man who tried to provide the best he could for his family but we could never save enough for a home.

I have now moved into the housing colony built by WMO on the outskirts of Mehkar. I always thank the Almighty for giving me this opportunity to raise my 5 year old son in an atmosphere where he can breathe fresh air, in an environment that promises a new beginning.

I can now hope for a brighter future for my child. Perhaps he can grow up to become a doctor and save lives. His father would have wanted that.”

**MEHKAR IS A VILLAGE  
IN THE STATE OF  
MAHARASHTRA,  
INDIA. THE  
WORLD MEMON  
ORGANISATION  
BUILT A COLONY  
IN 2014 AND  
GAVE AWAY 20  
HOUSING  
UNITS TO THE  
DESERVING.**



# FOR SYRIA

"IT STARTS WITH A SINGLE STEP. WHEN YOU WALK ACROSS THE BORDER FENCE. YOU LEAVE BEHIND YOUR COUNTRY, YOUR HOME, YOUR LIFE. YOU FEEL A VOID, A STATE OF EMPTINESS. YOU LOSE YOUR SENSE OF BELONGING, YOUR IDENTITY, YOUR BEING. YOU HAVE JUST BECOME IN-VISIBLE. YOU HAVE JUST BECOME ANOTHER REFUGEE.

THEN STARTS THE THOUSAND MILE JOURNEY THROUGH PURGATORY. FAMILY MEMBERS BEING BURIED WHERE THEY FELL ALONG THE WAY, CHILDREN SUCCEEDING TO HUNGER AND THIRST, FRIENDS SHOT DEAD WHILE CROSSING BORDERS.

IT'S A TRIAL OF FAITH. HE PUTS ME HERE. I TRUST HIS PLAN. HE WILL BRING ME HOME."

## REFUGEE CRISIS IN EUROPE

The refugee crisis in Europe has tested the will and resolve of its people and governments, but most of all our fellow brethren who are fleeing death, destruction and starvation in search of safety and an opportunity to live.

The World Memon Organisation has contributed **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (USD100,000)** towards this pertinent cause.

The WMO team has stood firm, shoulder to shoulder with the innocent victims of this mass exodus, and personally distributed refugee aid at several camps across Europe including Tovarnik, Tabernovce, Calais and Dunkirk under the leadership of Mr. Khalid Jussab.

Hundreds of refugees were provided meals along the migration route, soup kitchens were set up and blankets, warm clothing, shoes were provided to make their rigorous journey a little more comfortable.

9 large containers packed with medical equipment, medicines, blankets, tinned food and various items of warm clothing were shipped to Turkey enroute to Syria from the United Kingdom.

Food packs were distributed at refugee camps that have mushroomed in Turkey, along the Syrian border.

As the threat of starvation looms large in Syria, we hope the world follows and donates generously towards the cause of hunger.

**WE REQUEST YOU TO SAY A QUIET PRAYER FOR OUR LESS FORTUNATE BROTHERS AND SISTERS, MAYBE SHED A TEAR AND DO YOUR BIT TOWARDS SERVING MANKIND.**

# MALAWI

## HOPE FLOATS

THE YEAR 2015 STARTED ON A DISASTROUS NOTE WITH DEVASTATING FLOODS RAVAGING SOUTHERN MALAWI IN CENTRAL AFRICA. HUNDREDS LOST THEIR LIVES, THOUSANDS LOST THEIR HOMES AND LIVELIHOOD.

THE WORLD MEMON ORGANISATION IMMEDIATELY SPRUNG INTO ACTION.

MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS ALONG WITH AID IN THE FORM OF FOOD PACKETS, PLASTIC SHEETS AND BLANKETS WERE PROVIDED TO ALL FLOOD VICTIMS. THE WMO TEAM MARCHED INTO AREAS AFFLICTED BY THE FLOODS, BRAVED THE HARDSHIPS AND PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN DELIVERING FOOD, RELIEF MATERIAL AND SETTING UP SHELTERS FOR THE DISPLACED.



## SOUTH AFRICA

### WE WERE HERE BY THEIR SIDE

WMO stood up against Xenophobia in South Africa and helped the victims of this grave injustice by collaborating with other humanitarian organisations on the ground.

Meaningful contributions were also made towards Operation Hydrate, an initiative to provide water and bring some relief to the regions, scorched by the drought in South Africa.



## PAKISTAN

### WE WERE THERE

A devastating Earthquake measuring 7.7 on the richter scale hit Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Northern regions of India in October 2015.

**\$50,000** was released for bringing immediate relief to those affected by the catastrophe.

## SRI LANKA

In May 2016, more than 300,000 people were affected by severe floods and land-slides fueled by the torrential rains in Sri Lanka. We seek your generous contributions to rehabilitate those who lost their homes and livelihood.

**YOUR DONATIONS SAVE LIVES.**

**YOU ENABLE US TO PROMPTLY DELIVER AT THE MOST VULNERABLE TIMES**

# WONDER OF WOMEN WOW

## STRONG WOMEN EMPOWER OTHER WOMEN

WoW is an initiative by WMO-YOUTH WING for women empowerment.

**IF YOU GET, GIVE  
IF YOU LEARN, TEACH  
- MAYA ANGELOU**

WoW has initiated a program to provide training skills, specifically in embroidery and sewing to a group of 25 underprivileged women in India. The Youth Wing - India chapter has donated sewing machines along with a day of technical training each week. Plans are afoot to start a training centre on the outskirts of Mumbai.

The objective of WoW is to enable women to stand on their feet and become financially independent, ensuring a better upbringing for their children.

## YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS EMPOWER THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE

**THE LADIES WING OF WMO HAS COLLABORATED ON A NUMBER OF HUMANITARIAN ENDEAVOURS ACROSS THE GLOBE. YOUR DONATIONS ENABLE THEM TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THESE WORTHY CAUSES.**

- KASHMIR PROJECT AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDED IN THE KASHMIR VALLEY.
- CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
- AL NOOR FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND IN MALAWI
- NEPAL EARTHQUAKE APPEAL
- WIDOWS CHARITY IN INDIA
- LOHARA GIRLS ORPHANAGE IN INDIA



# RAMADAN IFTAR CAMP

In the Ramadan of 2015, the World Memon Organisation, Middle East Chapter organised Iftar meals for the entire duration of the holy month. A camp was set up in Dubai and thanks to your invaluable contributions, 37,500 Muslim brothers were provided meals for 30 days.

These brothers are mostly poor migrant workers employed in the bustling Middle East construction industry. They toil laboriously throughout the day, without food and water, building skyscrapers that will soon adorn the Dubai skyline whilst religiously fasting under the hot desert sun.

In 2016, we are expecting over 60,000 Muslim brothers.

**SPARE A THOUGHT,  
SHARE A MEAL AND  
FEED THE FASTING.**

**"Whoever feeds a fasting person will have a reward like that of the fasting person, without any reduction in his reward."**

**- At-Tirmidhi**

**LAST YEAR,  
THROUGH YOUR  
GENEROSITY,  
ALL OF THIS  
WAS MADE  
POSSIBLE.**

## **YOU CREATED A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

You shaped the lives of thousands of children by providing them free education in Pakistan.

## **YOU MADE DREAMS COME TRUE**

A Hundred underprivileged families in India got a roof over their head in the Ahmedabad housing project, Gujarat.

## **YOU GAVE HOPE**

You delivered meals, shoes, warm clothing, medicines to a sea of humanity migrating from Syria into Europe.

## **YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE**

You stood up against Xenophobia in South Africa, delivered aid to flood victims in Malawi. Provided funds and water to children reeling under the heat and drought in Africa.

## **YOU CHANGED LIVES**

You Empowered Women across the Globe.

## **YOU SHOWED YOU CARED**

You fed the fasting for the entire month of Ramadan in the Middle East.

**THANK YOU!**

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**“CHARITY NEVER DECREASES WEALTH.  
RATHER, IT INCREASES IT...  
IT INCREASES IT... IT INCREASES IT.”**

~ Messenger of Allah



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