

RESETTLEMENT AND REPATRIATION IN AFGHANISTAN

Categories: Hygiene Education/Community Building

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Hygiene Education

Training Mullahs to Spread Hygiene Knowledge



Above: Mullahs at a training session

JEN has previously worked to train teachers to spread hygiene education to children in schools, which proved to be successful as children would return home to tell their parents and siblings what they had learned.

However, in some areas where there are not many children, JEN has started to provide training for Mullahs, or Muslim clerics, in order to reach out to a wider range of people. JEN conducted training sessions for some 348 Mullahs from late July to early August, and because personal hygiene happens to be one of the teachings of Islam, it was a topic that was interesting to all the participants.

In fact, Friday is the most important day for congregational worship in Muslim communities, and because Mullahs deliver sermons at such congregations, following JEN's training they

have begun to give sermons on proper hygiene as well.

Men, who are the head of their families, then pass on the information they learn from the Mullahs to women and children. The spread of hygiene knowledge in this method works in a ripple effect.

Hygiene Education

Villagers Learn of Hygiene Practices from Mullahs

As Mullahs continue to give sermons at Friday worship congregations, more and more villagers have learned about proper hygiene practices. Testimonies from the local villagers illustrate how successful the sermons have been.

Samar Gul, a shepherd from Gujar Khil Village, commented: "On Friday, Mullah spent ten minutes telling us about health education, benefits of hygiene, and relation between hygiene and health before the worship. Thanks to it, we started having an interest in hygiene. Everyone said they would spread what they learned here to the people in the area."



Above: Interviewing a local villager

COUNTRY: AFGHANISTAN

Hanifullah, a security guard from Medan Minara Village, said: “I had already realized the importance of hygiene, because my son had given me some information on hygiene he got at school. This time, Mullah told me about it at the nearby mosque, which reminded me of how important it is to take hygiene in everyday life for health. I would like to tell all of my family members and make it a rule to keep hygiene with my son.”



Above: Children with their new Dream Bags

Community Building

Dream Bags Delivery a Success



Above: Dream Bags packed by Japanese children

This year marked the seventh year of JEN’s Dream Bag distribution project. In October, 7,087 Dream Bags – bags filled with stationary and toys packed by Japanese children – were distributed to students across 27 schools in the Bagram district in Parwan, an area where the offensive by anti-government and armed groups continue to endanger the local people. Children living in the area are constantly living in danger, and in addition they cannot afford much due to their financial status.

That being said, Dream Bags provide the children in the region a sense of fun as well as an encouragement to study in school with their new stationary and accessories.

“I much appreciate for giving my daughter such a great gift,” Mr. Hedayatullah, whose daughter received a Dream Bag, commented. “She has a profitable time with playing toys and studying with stationaries.”

With the project proving to be a success year by year, JEN hopes to continue distributing Dream Bags, packaged by Japanese children, for children in years to come.



The 7 EN’s of JEN

- Engage
- Entrust
- Encourage
- Endeavor
- Enjoy
- Encounter
- Enable

DONATE NOW AND HELP THE CAUSE!

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