

Iraqi Red Crescent Society



Annual Activities of 2009

Issued by OD & reporting department

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Introduction

The Iraqi Red Crescent society is an independent organization concerning on safety and dignity of vulnerable people from natural and man made disaster, the society has been founded in 1932, the society is strive to lessening the suffering of people through relieving and providing health care, health education and community base first aid.

The society depends on volunteers in implementing various activities (Distributing relief items, Food shares, Health programs, Disseminating the international humanitarian law, Restoring family links, Explosive remnants of war awareness, etc...

Background

The national society faced many changes due to crisis had happened in the country, first gulf war, second gulf war, International blockade, the invention had happened in 2003, for that the society adopted new programs like restoring links family, Explosive remnants of war awareness, Psychosocial support, etc..., where the society achieve its activities in cooperating with the community adding to recruit volunteers to implement operational departments actions such as Disaster Management, health care, restoring family links, ERWA, Dissemination) departments sustain by (admin, information technology& communication, Organizational development, auditing, finance, legal, investment,

Relief Activities

Within the involvement of the local community, 862 gifts were distributed to the orphans. Each gift consists of (track suit, training shoes, socks, towel, women's veil and school bag).

2009 Camps

During the pilgrimage season, IRCS erected two camps to host pilgrims, the first one located in the border area of Safwan with a capacity of 30 tents to receive 5000 pilgrims. While the second one located in the district of Al-Nukhaib – Anbar Governorate with a capacity of 25 tents to receive 6667 pilgrims. Both camps have been supplied with potable water, food meals and emergency medications.

Relief Activities of Baghdad Branch

- In the memorial of A'ashora (Arba'ainiat Al-Imam Al-Hussein), 195 tents plus 13 rest stations were established to deliver medical services to the worshipers, 40 cases have been evacuated to the nearest hospitals.
- Field visits have been implemented by the Disaster Management (DM) team – Baghdad Branch to make an assessment for the most vulnerable families in Baghdad. in coordination with the local community organizations, 5711 food parcels plus 8000 frozen chickens were distributed to the (orphans, widows, vulnerable and displaced families).
- Distribution of 5484 non-food items included the (orphans, widows, vulnerable and displaced families). The distribution covered the categories assessed by the DM team.
- 44 tents in four locations were installed for the purpose of delivering various services to the worshipers of Al-Imam Ali Al-Hadi in the memorial of his death, meanwhile, 2500 juice cans plus 2500 bottle of potable water have been distributed.
- Establishing 20 camps distributed in the middle and border areas of Baghdad, each camp consists of 10 to 12 tents to serve the worshipers of Al-Imam Musa Al-Kadhim in the memorial of his death. These camps were supplied with (200 tarpaulin, 475 thermos, 10000 water box, 2000 juice box, 200 sponge mattress, 200 pillows and 40 stretchers).
- Delivering medical and first aid services to the worshipers of the memorial of A'ashora where approximately 80 tents, plus 144 food parcels have been distributed.
- Due to the devastated bombing occurred in Al-Salihiya province on the 19th of August 2009, 33 tents were installed to host a total of 30 families whom lost their residence in this incident, hence, 33 food and non-food parcels were distributed.
- Distribution of 100000 liters of potable water to the displaced families.
- In Al-Rashidiya province, 60 whiteboard were distributed to the schools as a grant donated by the commercial attaché of Japan.

The table below illustrates the total of food and non-food items distributed in 2009

Index	Branch	Food	Non-Food	Gifts	Date	Chicken	Various
1	Baghdad	5711	5484	-	-	8000	180 cake of soap 2500 juice 2500 water(1liter)
2	Najaf	4392	3	150	120 box	500	9384 soap (piece)
3	Neneva	1638	1913	-	300 box	1000	139 soap (carton) 356 hygiene kits 115 tent 110 fan 860 blanket
4	Kirkuk	1675	665	1025	120 box	1000	
5	Basra	-	142	-	300 box	1000	225blanket 37 soap (carton) 1968 soap (piece)
6	Babil	1320	592	-	120 box	1030	
7	Dywnia	3633	-	-	120 box	1300	228 fan 48 stove
8	Saladin	1268	680	-	120 box	1000	6000 soap (piece)
9	Al-muthana	360	387	-	120 box	1360	
10	Thi qar	925	873	-	120 box	-	
11	Missan	5838	3872	160	120 box	1000	9432 soap (piece) 1100 fan 8 thermo 8 stove
12	Anbar	1549	262	195	120 box	1000	9000 meal
13	Dayala	5062	370	-	120 box	-	5055 5 500
14	Karbila	2600	848	35	120 box	1429	3470 1200 1080 1050 1250 65 70000
15	Arbil	610	4500	1800	120 box	1000	1428 600 72 250
16	Wassit	1800	253	-	120 box	1000	10000 1500
17	Sulimania	-	-	-	120 box	1000	108
18	Duhok	-	-	-	120 box	1000	4280
Total		38381	20844	3365	2400	23619	

Note:

Food Parcel contents are: (3 kg rice, 2 kg sugar, 500 grams tea, 5 kg flour, 2 liters oil, 2 tomato paste cans, 1 kg macaroni, 1 kg beans, 2 peanuts can, 2 mushroom cans and 2 cream cans).

Non-food items (NFI) contents are:

- A. Winter NFI contents: (4 blankets, thermos, 2 jerry cans, stove, lamp, kitchen set, mattress, kerosene stove, hygiene kit).
- B. Summer NFI contents: (2 blankets, thermos, 2 jerry cans, stove, lamp, kitchen set, mattress, fan, hygiene kit).

Logistics Activities

Fleet section

96 trucks field trips were implemented to transport the (food and non-food items) all over the country plus 19 vehicles were allocated to transport the worshipers of the memorial of A'ashora.

Warehouses movement

- Providing IRCS Branches with (8608 food parcels, 7700 non-food share, 1140 dates box plus 2700 soap box) in addition to providing (250 tents) to Sulaimaniyah Branch, 130 tents to Dohuk Branch, 50 tents to Anbar Branch and 100 tents to Kirkuk Branch.
- Providing 2090 non-food shares to the local community charities.
- Responding to the victims of Gaza through supplying them with 1200 potable water bottles and 1250 blankets.

Distribution section

In Baghdad governorate, 10000 food parcels were distributed for the beneficiaries included vulnerable, orphans and widows. In addition to distributing (70 orphan child gifts in cooperation with Bint Al-Huda charity, 112 gifts in cooperation with Al-Kindi charity, 39 gifts in cooperation with Bithoor Al-Rahma charity and 102 gifts in cooperation Iraqi youth organization). While 290 food parcels distributed to (the families registered in the records of Al-Entifatha Al-Sha'abaniya Organization, 429 food parcels distributed to the families affected by the devastated bombing occurred in Al-Salihiya City, 119 food parcels in cooperation with Faidh Al-Zahraa charity, 84 food parcels in cooperation with Tajan Charity for the volunerable in Al-sadir city, 226 food parcels in cooperation with Bashai'r al-khair charity, 45 food parcels for the vulnerable in al-Msaiyab city, 300 relief share for the families of martyrs and the victims of bombings occurred in Al-Sadir city. In Basrah Governorate, 100 blankets distributed to the vulnerable families while 430 food parcels distributed to the widows in cooperation with Alaa' Al-Rahma charity in Dayala Governorate.

Vehicles Maintenance

245 vary kinds of vehicles were maintained

Treatment and medical services department

48 tons of medications and medical equipments had been distributed in the hospitals and medical units, adding to distribute (430 wheelchairs and 28 crutches, 4 stretchers, 30 red CBFA bags, 11 black CBFA bags, 3451 CBFA bags for school , 26 bags , 12 toys , blood pressure meter .

Health Programs

In cooperation with the ministry of Health teams, health Staff and volunteers have examined the delegations of passengers in Baghdad International Airport, as well as providing the pilgrims of Mecca with 4000 masks to prevent them from the infection of the H1N1. In addition to provide the pediatric hospital in Al-Askan District with 500 bags of mouth feeding liquid and 200 spry, in the other hands, The society participated in reducing between 25 – 100 % of the cost of treatment for 129 patient in both maternity and surgical hospitals. Moreover, a circumcision campaign was achieved for 564 kids all over the country.

First Aid Activities section

In a continuous support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies , a CBHFA ToT workshop was successfully implemented for 37 Trainer, in addition to implementing 4307 workshops in CBHFA for schools (20 participants in each) included Baghdad and other governorates, while 86140 person have benefited from these trainings. Noting that 7000 First Aid Bags were distributed according to a predetermined distribution plans. The IRCS Supported also the implementation of another two workshops for the officials of the ministry of culture, the beneficiaries from these workshops reached 70 employees from both gender, the workshops included providing the ministry with 12 First Aid Bags.

Medical Reports section

1285 children and adults wheelchairs were distributed to the people with disabilities in many governorates, as well as the distribution of 50 wheelchairs for the children with disabilities under the age of 15 years old, In addition to the distribution of 25 crutches.

Health programs section

22 health coordinators have participated in the workshop implemented in all the branches for H1N1 awareness, the workshop purpose is to train 500 health disseminators whom will be responsible for the health awareness all over the country, these activities included the distribution of 100000 folders specified for the awareness from the pandemic influenza and 33 awareness lectures have been delivered in schools and universities all over Iraq.

On the occasion of the international Week of nursing, 60 person from nursing staff of the governmental have been awarded some prizes in all Iraqi governorates.

Awareness lectures on cholera and early detecting of leukemia were delivered in Kirkuk, Diwaniya and Muthanna for the benefit of 386 persons from both gender. Meanwhile,

90000 educational posters disseminating the significance of the purification of water in all Iraqi governorates, in addition to the participation in the measles campaigns implemented by the world health organization as an independent supervisor where the result was determining 95000 unvaccinated child in all Iraq, accordingly, the ministry of health were notified to take the required procedures.

Psychological Support Program

In cooperation with the world Health Organization, a ToT workshop was implemented for the coordinators of the psychological support program in all branches for five days, where 22 coordinators benefited. In addition to implementing the self-protection program for children in the armed conflict areas, in due, a 20 persons team was formed to implement 500 workshops for the benefit of 10000 persons from teachers in the schools covered by the program. The program covered (200 persons from the elderly houses in Baghdad, 800 orphans from the orphanages in Baghdad, 250 patients from Al-Rashad Hospital for retarded people in Baghdad and 30 persons plus 225 children from the local community organization in Baghdad). In Neneva Governorate, a celebration for the thalassemia patients in bin Al-Atheer Hospital while three training courses in Kirkuk for 60 persons achieved.

Public and International Relations

Coordination

- A. The coordination with the Turkish Agency for International Development with regard to the building Al-Razi Hospital in Baghdad. The coordination resulted the beginning of the building operations since July 2009 as a grant from the Turkish Red Crescent Society.
- B. The coordination with Jordanian Hashemite Charity in delivering humanitarian aids to Palestine – Gaza
- C. The visit of the Delegation of the Iranian Red Crescent Society to Iraqi Red Crescent Society in order to signing a memorandum of understanding between the two National Societies.
- D. The coordination with the world Health Organization and the health department in order support the monitoring campaigns for the children vaccination against measles disease.

Cooperation with the Governmental Authorities

- a. Cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in order to facilitate granting visas to the delegated employees of IRCS, in addition to contacting the ministry of labor and social affairs to get the statistics' updates of the governmental orphanages situation. Moreover, another kind of coordination was achieved with the

ministry of Defense to ensure the protection to the foreigners' delegations visiting Iraq from various sister national societies.

- b. Contacting the authorities of Baghdad International Airport to facilitate the mission of delegating IRCS staff and volunteers. In the other hands, a continuous coordination with the authorities to allocate an office inside the Airport for the use of IRCS which will contribute in facilitating the activities that IRCS is involved in like (medical evacuation missions, pilgrims support, etc.).
- c. Finalize all the required procedures to receive the Iranian Red Crescent delegation visiting Karbala.

Follow up

- a. Finalizing the agreement between IRCS and The International Committee of the Red Cross with regard to support the IRCS telecommunication system.
- b. Organizing a specific induction course on Disaster management in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Federation in the IRCS HQ.

Protocol Section

- a. One of the main activities of the protocol section in 2009 focused on booking the flights for the delegations of IRCS nationally (Erbil and Sulaimaniyah) and Internationally (Jordan, UAE, Geneva, Qatar, Turkey, Sudan, Spain, Syria and Iran).
- b. Granting visas for the IRCS employees as well as to the visitors from other National Societies and partners of the movement whom visited Iraq like the delegation of Iranian Red Crescent and the representative of IFRC – Iraq delegation.

Youth & volunteers

18198 volunteers from both gender participated to accomplish more than 1131 actions includes (maintain the relationship between volunteers, programs for woman, child welfare, education programs, social activities and athletics support) and the number of beneficiaries reached to 207577 person.



Course of crockery

Restoring family links

Tracing requests & Correspondences

- Receiving (2) tracing requests from an Iraqi family in which they enquired about the fate of their relatives who are missing in Kuwait during the 1991 events and they lost contact with them in Iraq since then, these requests were sent to the ICRC to make the necessary procedures in coordination with the Kuwaiti Red Crescent Society.
- Receiving an Iranian family in the HQs required tracing their missing son in the territorial waters opposite to the Kuwaiti coasts since 2006. Moreover, there are some information indicate that the sought person was transmitted to the Multi National Forces in Iraq, the necessary tracing procedures were made in cooperation with the ICRC & the IRCS Basrah branch. Then the family was informed with the results accordingly.
- According to the request submitted by an Iraqi citizen who was inhabitant in Switzerland and whose passport was confiscated by the Swiss authorities during his residence, we received his passport and delivered it to the person concerned in cooperation with the ICRC and the Swiss Red Cross.
- Sending a tracing request result to the Austrian Red Cross for inquiring about the fate of an Iraqi missing woman in Nainawa governorate who lost contact with her family. But unfortunately she wasn't located according to the information given in the tracing request.
- Sending a tracing request to the ICRC to trace the fate of a corpse for an Iraqi person died in one of the Multi National Forces' prisons. Whereas the IRCS received his death certificate and delivered it to his family but without figuring out the place of the corpse burial.
- With reference to the request submitted by a Jordanian family in which they required the IRCS intervention to provide help for their relative who is detained in the Ministry of Interior prison. We were notified that they alleviated the judgment pronounced against him and provided him with medical care due to his bad health situation in cooperation with the ministry of Human Rights.
- Sending a tracing request to the ICRC concerning an Iraqi missing person on the Iraqi Iranian borders since 1989. The family concerned had information indicated that the sought person is arrested in a prison in Tehran, and they are still waiting for any news.
- Receiving a tracing request from an Iraqi family in which they required to trace their missing son who was arrested by the Syrian authorities in 2007 and then lost contact with him. Therefore, coordination was made between the IRCS, the ICRC and the Syrian Red Crescent Society to locate the sought person. During the follow up process we were notified by the enquirer that the sought person was released and went back peacefully to his family in August 2009 and this case was considered as a closed one accordingly.
- Receiving a tracing request from an Iranian inhabitant woman in the US in which she required to have any information that might help to locate her missing nieces who lost



contact with her in Iraq since 1998, because they were banned to go back to their residence country (Germany) by the Mujahideen Khalq Organization (MKO) in Iraq, Consequently, the request was sent to the Ministry of Interior in order to make the necessary procedures to locate the missing persons and notify the family concerned with the results.

- Receiving 5 Ask for News requests sent from Iranian families in which they asked for help to recognize the fate of their sons who are in Ashraf Camp related to (Mujahideen Khalq Organization) in Iraq. Thus we addressed the Ministry of Interior to provide possible help in this term.
- Receiving a tracing request about an Iraqi citizen who lost contact with his family since 2008 during his travel to Turkey and Greece. Thus the request was sent to the ICRC for coordination with the concerned national societies in order to locate the missing person.
- Receiving a tracing request about an Iraqi citizen missed in Saudi Arabia during the rites of pilgrimage, and sending the request to the ICRC to follow up the tracing procedures in coordination with the Saudi Arabia Red Crescent society.
- Sending an inquiry to the ICRC concerning an Iraqi citizen who lost contact with his family since 2008 during his residence in Syria, while his family was informed that he was arrested by the Syrian authorities but without any information might indicate his whereabouts.
- Sending a transmission of document request to the ICRC to facilitate having a death certificate for an Iraqi person died in Rafha camp in 1993, and according to the request submitted by his family in order to benefit from this certificate.

Family's relationships continuation:

- Receiving urgent RCMs from the ICRC sent by minors detained in a prison for juvenile related to the Iraqi authorities, later on the RCMs were delivered to the families concerned in order to locate the detention place for the minors to visit them.
- Delivering 1 civilian RCM sent from an Egyptian family in Egypt to their brother in Diyala, attached to some personal photos and documents according to his request in coordination with the IRCS tracing office in Diyala.
- Receiving 12 civilian RCMs in the IRCS / HQs sent from Iranian families, but they were sent back to them and they were notified that these RCMs are out of the humanitarian frame work for the IRCS.

Periodical tracing cases & exchanging RCMs:

- Distributing ١٤٢١٤ RCMs detainees' families, collecting ٢٩٠٣ replies and then been sent to the detainees, Adding to filling in ٢٣ Release Checks forms (RL.CH) to make sure that the released detainees returned back to their families, and sending back ٤٨٧ RCMs (B.T.S.) to the addressees due to the insufficient addresses or due to the fact that these RCMs were sent to insecure areas.
- Collecting 2581 Attestation of Detention requests (AoDs) for repatriated POWs and then these AoDs were sent to the ICRC to be issued, in addition to notifying ١٢٧٧ AoDs enquirers with the date of receiving their done AoDs, Moreover, distributing ١٧٤٠ done AoDs to repatriated POWs.

- Collecting ^{VA} Allegation of Arrest requests (AoA) from families alleged to have their relatives arrested by the M.N.F. and sending these requests to the ICRC to be followed up with the authorities concerned.

Explosive Remnants of War Awareness

The program targets people living near the contaminated areas and alerts them through awareness lectures. The program started in 2002 in cooperation with ICRC till 2007, this cooperation was suspended, whereas Iraqi Red Crescent society carried out most of the program costs, Program coordinators in all governorates except three northern governorates.

No	branch	Action				Distributed materials						Beneficiaries	
		Lecture	Distributed publications	Campaign	Miscellaneous	Posters	Folder	Snake & ladder	Maze	Time table	T-shirt	Male	Female
1	Baghdad	26	.	1	Program coordinators participated in (distributing food and non food items, Health programs)	0.7	1.76	278	278	177	.	787	0.27
2	Al-muthana	10	6	3		2.3	801	120	2.	228	111	711	0.6
3	Wassit	16	.	2		129	260	.	9	.	.	009	182
4	Anbar	22	.	9		278	271	918	272	.	.	79.	229
5	Basra	01	7	2		129.	2.0.	1.20	720	0.1.	2.1.	2121	1787
6	Neneva	21	.	9		792	7.0	910	270
7	Najaf	10	.	8		122	82.	2.	.	.	1.	722	208
8	Dywanlia	2.	.	2		212	1172	2.	2.	.	.	2.22	280
9	Kerkuk	22	.	.		220	986	.	.	2.	.	77.	702
10	Babil	6	.	.		122	2.	.	.	28	.	12.	17.
11	Thi-qar	.	1	.		122	78.	12.	22.	.	29	071	21.
12	Missan	11	.	2		280	29.	.	2.2	20	.	227	122
13	Dyala	28	.	.		169	262	70	07	1.2	22	172	216
Total		290	9	22	96	0290	9929	28.1	2220	1110	072	1.222	0802

Dissemination

Dissemination program is one of the IRCS programs that disseminate IRCS humanitarian mission, the international movement, the fundamental principles, international humanitarian law (IHL), and the emblem usage. These goals are achieved by targeting the local communities with its various population implemented by the network staff spreading in the 18 branches in all the Iraqi governorates.

No	Branch	Lectures	Gender		Beneficiaries (person)
			Male	Female	
					221.
1.	Anbar	09	1192	1.66	106.
2.	Kirkuk	00	829	731	87.
3.	Al-muthana	0.	0.1	209	1187
4.	Wassit	22	772	012	1219
5.	Babil	22	9.8	211	298
6.	Dyala	22	289	2.9	02.
7.	Missan	22	227	172	718
8.	Basra	10	217	2.2	027
9.	Dywanlia	10	290	221	202
10.	Saladin	9	18.	172	226
11.	Neneva	9	169	172	181
12.	Dohuk	0	26	100	10
13.	Thi-qar	2	10		221.
Total		220	0821	2291	1.222

Organizational Development & Reporting

The Organizational Development staff accomplished job description of the society staff adding to restructuring (society, and it is maternity and surgical hospitals, as well as preparing proposals for (awareness of H1N1, malnutrition, awareness of HIV, Health Education project, breast cancer, rehabilitation for people with disabilities.

In cooperation with construction department we issued proposals of low cost buildings for displaced families, water treatment project and regional warehouse in south Iraq, adding to the society website.

Collecting information of annual appeal of the programs and required training and issued plan of action and send it IFRC.

Preparing planning strategy curriculum, adding to held two induction courses for the society employees and volunteers, adding to issue the Annual activities report for 2008 and 12 monthly reports one for each month and issuing report of distributing wheelchairs donated by the Spanish Red Crescent.

Conclusion

IRCS attracted the attention since its foundation in 1932 in its active response to natural and man made disasters in accordance with the International Movement's principles as the head of relief committee in Iraq. IRCS also preserved its approach in supporting the local authorities in the aspect of reliving the vulnerable people by providing food, nonfood, potable water, and health care services. As well as providing other services in cooperation with other international partners through family links, awareness, dissemination and other various services.

IRCS is a unique society that worked inside Iraq during very dangerous periods after military operations of the multi national forces in 2003. Consequently IRCS implemented many relief operations all over the country through its countrywide network of volunteers.