

What is Kashmir Emergency Relief Fund?

Due to the ongoing restrictions and communication blackout families have been trapped in their homes for months, roads are blocked, markets are closed, putting countless lives at risk.

People in Kashmir are suffering after a prolonged curfew and communication blackout has led to a humanitarian crisis in the region. The people of Kashmir have been confined to their homes with minimal access to life-saving medicine, food and daily essentials: While most shops are closed down, those who manage to open do so only for a very short period of time, for essentials in the early hours of the morning.

The pain and hardships inflicted on Kashmiri people have sent shockwaves around the globe; but the ground reality is the situation has not improved even after 2.5 months, in fact it is getting worst everyday passing, and what makes it harder is outside charities and agencies are not currently allowed in Indian Administered Kashmir to deliver emergency relief. Therefore, we have found ourselves obliged to take action, and due to the sensitive nature of the region, it has been left to people like ourselves who are from Kashmir to access support from outside and to then share and distribute relief from within Kashmir.

Before I left for Kashmir on my recent trip in August. Amber managed to speak with some key organizations here in the UK about the Kashmir situation and we were met with compassion and friendliness with regards our deep concerns for our Brothers and Sisters in Kashmir.

We managed to raise some crucial funds for the emergency food relief for Kashmir.

I was able to distribute food to several families who were close to destitution and were confined to eating one small meal a day.

Some of the stories some of the families shared with me were very disturbing and heart breaking and I really wished I could do more to help some more families, but unfortunately, I had a very limited recourses and time. Now since I got back from Kashmir, we were hoping that the situation will calm down little bit, so people can get out to work and go for their daily business, but it looks there is still not sign in sight of this abating. The ongoing shut down is having a devastating effect on people's lives and this has led to a humanitarian crisis, with shortages of food, and severely reduced access to medical treatment and medical supplies. We are very worried about the families who live hand to mouth, who earn their money on a day to day basis, but are kept in their homes against their free will.

We also have 40 families involved with our women's project www.chakraproject.org in Kashmir who are depended on earning their living through stitching and making the products which are then sold to raise the money for this project. Due to the restrictions and communication blackout, my mother had no contact with any of the ladies or their families since last 2.5 months, which is deeply worrying.

Therefore, we have decided to return back to Kashmir to make contact with the families involved with our women's project www.chakraproject.org and continue with the distribution of emergency food and medicine relief. We will have to secure a curfew passes once we are in Kashmir, which means we will be able to deliver food and medicine to the families living in highly restricted areas, despite the curfew and communications blackout.

Please stand in solidarity with Kashmiri families and help us to offer real, practical help to those in a critical need.

Ways you can help!

1. Donate a one of payment
2. Sponsor a family for month
3. Make a purchase from our Chakra Foundation website www.chakraproject.org to buy a meaningful early Christmas Gift, and we will donate the 25% of the purchase amount towards the Kashmir Emergency Relief Fund.
3. Hold a Kashmir Solidarity evening in your area and invite us to give a talk to raise awareness about the plight of our Kashmiri Brothers and Sisters, as well as with the aim of raising some funds towards the Emergency Relief Fund.