

JANUARY 2025



Salaam  
Foundation

SALAAM FOUNDATION

# NEWSLETTER





## Mission and Vision

Salaam Foundation is a humanitarian and development organisation based in Johannesburg, South Africa. Our mission is to address the pressing challenges of poverty, inequality, and both natural and man-made disasters. We aim to create a positive impact in communities across South Africa, the African continent and beyond by providing essential support and resources.

### Core Values:

We believe in compassion, integrity, and collaboration. Our work is driven by the conviction that every individual deserves dignity and support during times of need.

## Key Projects:

- [Search and Rescue Team](#)
- [Sustainable Farming](#)
- [Palestine](#)
- [Hunger alleviation in SA](#)
- [Higher education student bursaries](#)
- [Widow and orphan care](#)
- [Syria/Turkey](#)
- [Yemen](#)
- [Madagascar and Lesotho](#)
- [Nepal and Malawi](#)

### How You Can Help:

Your support is crucial for us to continue our work. By donating, you contribute directly to our projects that change lives. Every donation helps us provide essential services and support to those in need.

### Join Us:

Become part of our mission to spread love, comfort, and humanity. Together, we can change the world.

For more information about our projects or to donate, visit our website  
<https://salaamfoundation.com/>



## The SFSR: Our Search and Rescue team

We are developing a dedicated team to respond swiftly to emergencies, providing critical assistance during disasters. The team received advanced mountain rescue training in 2024 to ensure they are ready to assist with any eventuality from natural disasters to human catastrophes. The aim of the team is to respond to disaster situations and provide effective rescue services. During the water shutdowns in Johannesburg during December 2024, the SFSR team helped with water distributions in the Johannesburg South region. They will receive training in urban and water rescue in 2025.



**SFSR Training in 2024**



## Sustainable Farming

The overarching goal of these sustainable farming projects are to empower communities by providing them with the skills and resources needed to grow their own food, thus reducing dependency on external aid and fostering long-term food security. Through these initiatives, the Salaam Foundation not only addresses immediate hunger needs but also promotes sustainable agricultural practices that can lead to economic independence for vulnerable communities. Every six weeks, meat packs supplanted by healthy organic vegetables are delivered by the Salaam Foundation team to various communities around the Gauteng area. Through these deliveries, 10 000 meat and veggie meals reach families in need in every cycle.



## Farm at the Vaal

Our Farm at the Vaal is located in South Africa's Free State Province and covers over 120 hectares. It is a cattle and sheep facility designed to rear and produce high quality beef and mutton for those in need. The farm helps to supply meals to the needy. The farm has expanded to include many fruit and vegetable trees. The project is in conjunction with Ummah Heart.



## Farm In The City

The Farm in the City is a social entrepreneurship project located at our offices in Robertsham, Johannesburg. It is based on organic and hydroponic vegetable production. It consists of several greenhouse tunnels and a farm stall and garden around the premises. A borehole was dug on the premises which meets the water requirements needed to sustain the plant life.

# Palestine Response



Since its inception as an organisation, Salaam Foundation has been working in Gaza, Palestine, on various projects.

Throughout the ongoing genocide, we have provided support on several levels, including medical assistance, diesel supply, water and food aid.

Our current efforts are centered around the Gaza Kitchen, which has been providing thousands of meals monthly to families for the past year. The project has expanded out of its original neighbourhood with deliveries to other areas despite the risks and dangers.

There are further expansions in place for the kitchen depending on the circumstances and safety of the partner teams.





## Syria/Turkey

Salaam Foundation is focused on human development as its primary means of poverty alleviation and community growth.

Following 13 years of war and the recent collapse of the Assad regime, we have committed to helping Syrian children with Islamic and secular education as well as skills development and character building.

Our first institute, Madressah Rashedeen, is located on the Turkish border town, Sanliurfa, and has 400 learners.

You could support a learner's education for an entire year for just R2000.





## Yemen

In Yemen, our work has been centred in the Hadhramaut Province and the city of Tarim. There have been several interventions to cover both immediate and long-term needs. These have included a sustainable livestock project consisting of a small goat breeding flock which was trialled in 2023 and advanced to the second phase in 2024. Land has also been secured to begin a sustainable farming project. Here we aim to sustainably grow food for supply to some of the most impoverished people in the region.

Other interventions have included the supplying of solar energy sources to the Mostaqbel Sewing Centre for ladies. We have also set up two of our own sewing projects.

In the education field, we have been rendering support to the Tarim School for the Blind. A electrical generator and steel shaping machine have been donated as well as a school bus to pick up and drop off the blind students who cannot reach the school.





Madagascar continues to be one of the most impoverished places on earth and its rural areas in the south of the island are often ignored.

We have made several trips to the island and in 2024 we provided food aid to communities along the southern coastline.

Difficult conditions and often inaccessible areas, have made these people amongst the most forgotten in the world. In 2025, we aim to return to Madagascar once again bringing change to this part of the world.

## Madagascar

## Lesotho

In Lesotho, we have been working alongside Sheikh Moosa Pitso, in establishing a skills training centre, feeding centre and place of prayer.

The Lesotho project is another one of our long-term, self-sustaining investment projects that seeks to maximise the potential outcome of charitable contributions. The sustainable farming project is progressing well and new equipment such as a grinding machine, milling machine and tractor have been delivered to move the project along.



## Bosnia

The cities of Jablanica, Konjic, Fojnica, and Kiseljak suffered significant damage in the flood disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina in October 2024. We worked with partner teams to deliver ready-to-eat food, water, and hygiene kits to those in need who have been affected by the floods.



**Water Project in Nepal and Malawi**

Water wells in Nepal and Malawi are an ongoing project which greatly assists communities in these two countries that are extremely water insecure. With more than nine million people in Malawi suffering from the effects of the El Nino drought and flood conditions, water wells play an important role in alleviating the situation. Following heavy floods in the tiny Asian state of Nepal, we've drilled 5 water wells with hand pumps to assist the local communities on behalf of all those who have lost their lives in Palestine.



You can provide water as well and earn ongoing reward for yourself and a beloved for just R5000 in Nepal and R14000 in Malawi.

Contact

[az@salaamfoundation.com](mailto:az@salaamfoundation.com).

# SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2024

**Salaam Foundation once again facilitated the annual #LemonAid campaign.**

The #LemonAid campaign which started in 2021 is a twist on the lemonade stall idea – allowing children and adults to pop-up in their own spaces and raise funds for humanitarian causes. The 2024 #LemonAid campaign raised money for Salaam Foundation’s Gaza Kitchen with the generous help of all who gave their time to be part of the project.



## LemonAid

## Echoes of Innocence



**On December 1 2024, the Echoes of Innocence tribute was held at the Wits Linder Auditorium.**

The event brought together learners with disabilities from schools around Gauteng in tribute to the children of Palestine. December 3 is marked nationally and internationally as the Day of Persons with Disabilities and the event provided a platform for the learners to display their talents and abilities. The funds raised from the event went to Salaam Foundation’s Palestine Response project.



# WAYS TO SUPPORT

## BANKING DETAILS:

Salaam Foundation

FNB 6266 914 7665

Branch 250 737

Ref: Project Name + your name  
(zakat/lillah/sadaqa)



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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

The year 2024 has been a whirlwind of profound impact on many lives. From emergency aid to supporting sustainable farming programmes to helping rebuild communities, your generosity has been a beacon of light to those who need it most.

We at Salaam Foundation would like to express our deepest gratitude to all our donors for your unwavering support, your trust, loyalty and dedication in our projects.

*Thank you for helping us #ChangeTheWorld.*

*Message by Fatima Sookharia*

All praise be to Allah, 9 years have now passed since the inception of Salaam Foundation. From humble beginnings, the organisation has grown significantly due to the dedicated stewardship and commitment of my co-directors, Fatima Sookharia and Zaheer Pahad.

Without our loyal staff members, based in both our city and farm operational spaces, Salaam Foundation would not be what it is today.

Most importantly without the continued support of our volunteers, donors, advisors and mentors, we would have little to show in the way of progress.

The world is changing faster than anyone could have anticipated.

Everyday seems to bring news of a new challenge facing humanity and 2025 is not expected to be any different.

Salaam Foundation will continue to be agile and responsive to the short term emergency and long term developmental needs of communities wherever they may be regardless of race, religion or creed.

In a world where the worst of humanity far too often hogs the headlines, driving society into a spiral of negativity, Salaam Foundation will aim to be the counter balance, bringing love, hope and joy across the world.

*We look forward to working with you and changing the world for the better in 2025.*

*Message by Azhar Vadi*

[www.salaamfoundation.com](http://www.salaamfoundation.com)