

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



BILAL
MUSLIM
MISSION
KENYA

WELCOME

ANNUAL REPORT

Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya is dedicated to serving underprivileged children, families and communities in rural villages in the coastal and eastern provinces of Kenya. Poverty, drought, illiteracy and lack of adequate water and sanitation facilities are some of the challenges facing the people Bilal Kenya works with.

In the year 2022, several new projects were initiated to the ongoing projects begun previously. This report highlights the activities undertaken during the past twelve months.



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MESSAGE FROM

CHAIRMAN

We thank the Almighty for the blessings of another completed year of service towards spiritual upliftment and improvement of human dignity. The activities mentioned in this report were carried out in partnership with resource providers and the rural communities served by Bilal Kenya. As schools and marketplaces opened fully with the relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions, it was expected that the economy would also pick up. However, the pandemic induced slowdown was worsened by the effects of a three-year severe drought in most of the areas served by Bilal Kenya. This led to high demand for food relief and Bilal Kenya organized food drives to the various communities. With your generous support, the C-19 mitigation activities, especially for food relief and education promotion continued. With a worsening drought, most wells dried up and the water table dropped even deeper, in some places to 220 metres. Supporting demand for water became a priority challenge. Several new deep borewells were drilled and desalination plants installed in some to improve access to clean drinking water for the people. Support of The Mainstay Foundation and The World Federation of KSIMC have been critical in this regard. To improve food security measures, new water management projects like the supply of materials for farm-level water ponds were tested. The tree planting and afforestation project, supported by the Lady Fatima Trust, continued its efforts to propagate new seedlings and plant several thousand new trees. Finally, building solidarity with sister Shia organizations and improving intra- faith and inter-faith relations were strengthened through meetings and friendly gestures like sharing of resources, including food.

This report describes some of the challenges and innovative approaches to bridge the gap between spiritual and scientific education and focusing on economically and environmentally sustainable approaches as paths out of poverty, both material and spiritual. Bilal Kenya's vision is to support these communities towards community cohesion and self-reliance, economic security, and spiritual wellbeing and confidence. Our appreciation and Du'a go out to all our partners, individual and institutional, who have walked the path of caring for human dignity. We look forward to a continuing partnership.

Mr. Iqbal Sunderj
Chairman - Bilal Kenya





TABLIGH

One major function of Tabligh is running efficient madaris. Competence in modern teaching methodologies is a critical factor in this process. To promote teacher capacity, a crash course over three weeks was organized for Madaris, IRE and ECDE teachers with facilitators from the International Institute for Islamic Studies, Qom. This was a comprehensive workshop on teaching approaches and methodologies for mubalighs in a classroom setting. The workshops took place in December 2022 at the Imam Ridha Centre, Mtongwe.

FATIMIYYAH

Fatimiyyah majalis were held from the 14th to the 22nd of January at Masjid Hassanain, also known as Bahman Mosque in Mombasa, in the evenings from 5-6 PM. Speakers who gave sermons included; Sh. Ali Bahero, Sh. Muhammad Dumuli, Sh. Juma Shuguli, Sayyid Twahir and Sh. Aidarus Athman. These majalis were aired live on social media platforms.



HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN

With the generous support and contribution provided by various donors and well-wishers, Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya was able to distribute food parcels to 15 Bilal Kenya Centres and extended its support to 15 Independent Centres in the Coastal Region as well as various centres from Upcountry, Malindi, Lamu and Tana River. A total of 5,170 individual families residing in rural and urban centers received family dignity food parcels.



QURAN COMPETITION

During the holy month of Ramadhan, The Media and Tabligh Departments facilitated the annual Quran competition held via the Zoom platform. Participants included Madrasa students, adult men, adult women and Mubaligheen. The competition in the centers started on the 26th of March 2022/23 Shaban 1443 A.H and the Zonal competition was held from the 18th to the 22nd of April 2022/16 -20 Ramadhan 1443 AH.



EID UL GHADEER

This year, Eid ul Ghadeer was celebrated on the 24th of July 2022 at the Al-Ridha Islamic Complex in Mtongwe, Mombasa and across all Bilal centres. Some of the outdoor activities conducted included Tug of war, Dua for patients at the Coast General Hospital Mombasa led by the maalims and students, a friendly football match and prize giving.



MUHARRAM WORKSHOP

In conjunction with Hadi Online University, a two-day online training camp was organized on the 28th and 29th of July 2022, for the shuyukhs. This was to prepare them on how to best conduct the Muharram majaalis. The program was held at the Bilal Hall in Mombasa, Kenya via the Zoom platform. The medium of instruction was mostly Arabic, with one lecture delivered by Dr. Beheshti in English.



HOLY MONTH OF MUHARRAM

The 10-day Muharram majaalis were held from 30th July to 8th Aug 2022 at Bilal Hall, Mombasa. The majaalis for men were conducted by Sh. Jaffar Hinzano, Sh. Muhammad Dumila, Syd. Twahir Muhammad, Sh. Ali Bahero and Sh. Juma Shughuli from 5 pm - 6 pm. Sis. Ruiya Salim and Sis. Latifah Muhammad conducted ladies' majlis from 11 am - 12 pm.





ASHARA SAJJADIYAH & ZAINABIYYAH

For Ashara Sajjadiyyah, A 10-day program was held at Bilal Hall Mombasa from the 20th to the 28th of August 2022. It was a joint program with both men and women in attendance. Majaalis were held at 5.00 pm. The Ashara Zainabiyah program was marked from the 8th to the 17th of September 2022. Ladies' majaalis were from 11.00 am to 12.00 pm while majaalis for men were from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm. The speakers focused on several topics in their sermons including the role of Bibi Zainab (a.s) after the martyrdom of Imam Hussein (as), Women's rights in society, Islamic Education and many others.



MILAD UN NABI

Milad un-Nabi is a joyous occasion. It honours a man who radiated mercy and kindness wherever he walked. The best of Allah swt's creation. A unifying figure for all Muslims. Bilal commemorated this occasion aptly during its **unity week** celebrations. A five-day Milad program for ladies and gents was held at Bilal Hall from the 11th to the 15th of October. Key speakers included Sh. Mohamed Dumila, Syd. Mohamed Twahir and Dr. Mahmoud Shirazi. The programs centred around the theme **'The birth of the holy Prophet and the unity of Muslims'**. We also participated in the procession held annually in Mombasa to commemorate this occasion. All Bilal centres organized Milad un-Nabi celebrations in their respective villages. Once again, Muslim unity was emphasized, as well as the importance of the Holy Prophet as a role model whom we need to emulate.





EDUCATION

CHENGONI PRE-PRIMARY

Tuesday the 19th of July was a memorable day for the residents of Samburu Sub County and more specifically, the Chengoni Community. A newly constructed and custom-made Pre-primary Unit was opened and a milestone was celebrated! The Pre-primary years are a crucial bridge between the home environment and the formal school environment of later years. Construction of the unit commenced on the 1st of April and had taken three and a half months to complete.

DIGITAL LEARNING

The year since this program kicked off has seen its expansion to a total of 14 centres, with the number of beneficiaries totaling 744 students of ages 4-7 years. New and varied learning opportunities have been available to the students. The program has also improved the digital literacy of the teachers. This program has been a significant achievement for the education department.



WF-AID ORPHAN SUPPORT

In the month of August, support packages funded by WF-AID for 8 orphans were delivered to them. The packs included two sets of school uniforms, some miscellaneous items expected to last about six months and study materials. The guardians and their children were appreciative of the support extended to them, in light of the rising cost of living in the country.



LIGHTING FOR ALL

In most rural homes, families rely on kerosene lamps for lighting, releasing toxic fumes that affect the health of the family. The mission distributed 408 solar lights to students in madaris and pre-primary classes. Solar lights are bright and environmentally friendly. They will be a convenient study tool for scholars, especially at night.



FEED A CHILD

We were able to provide 739 cups of porridge per day to pre-primary students from Monday to Friday and 2,482 cups of porridge per weekend to madrasa students. The Feed a Child Program has led to increased energy levels in students, improved their ability to cope with a long day at school and boosted their Immune Systems.



LUNCH PROGRAM

The Lunch Program was introduced towards the end of the year at the 15 Bilal Kenya centres, with generous support from the Zahra Trust. 2,519 madrasa students and 683 pre-primary level students received hot meals every school day.





WATER AND SANITATION

This year, four boreholes were drilled in (Mackinnon Road, Samburu, Mbararani and Mabamani). One desalination plant was launched in Chengoni and four shallow wells were dug in (Mtongwe, Shimoni, Mwasafu and Kichaka). Water demand is very high and Alhamdulillah, entire communities are being uplifted as a result of these water programs.

CHALLENGES

- Prolonged periods of drought led to very low water levels in some boreholes. Water pumping is only practicable once water levels are slightly raised.
- In some areas, rock formations and water tables are impermeable, drilling becomes an arduous task and the very little water that may be found deeper inside dries up very quickly.





AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

TREE PLANTING

More than 60,000 seeds have been planted this year. Of the 27,431 seedlings that are ready for replanting, some have already been distributed around the centers and the communities they support during the short rains, for the optimum establishment and growth of the trees. Others are still in the nursery shades awaiting transplantation.

Spent world environment day cleaning the environment near our centres both at the villages and towns.

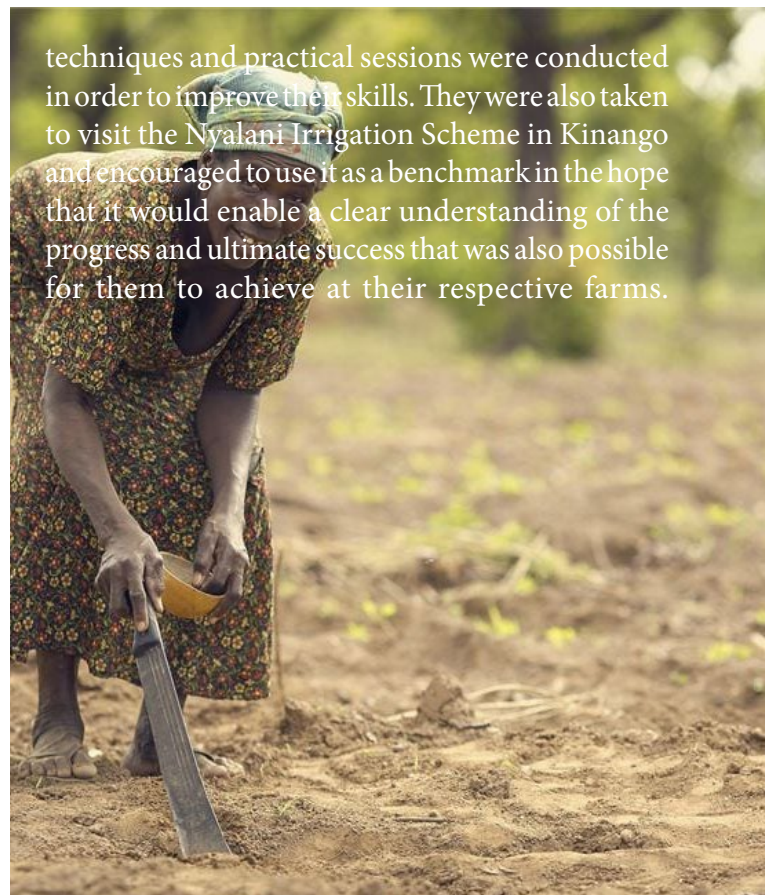
SEED DISTRIBUTION

This year we managed to provide over 256kgs of hybrid maize, green grams and watermelon seeds to farmers during the rainy season on a 50-50% cost-sharing basis in order to increase food production and ensure food sufficiency.

TRAINING

Impactful training were held this year, albeit few. Progressive and interested farmers from all centers gained valuable knowledge and insight from the facilitators. Farmers were advised extensively on different

techniques and practical sessions were conducted in order to improve their skills. They were also taken to visit the Nyalani Irrigation Scheme in Kinango and encouraged to use it as a benchmark in the hope that it would enable a clear understanding of the progress and ultimate success that was also possible for them to achieve at their respective farms.





ECONOMIC UPLIFTMENT

Initiated in 2006, the primary focus of this scheme is the economic empowerment of women in the 15 centres managed by Bilal Kenya.

TAILORING CLASSES

The tailoring classes are quite popular. Two new classes were introduced in Mtongwe and Moyeni centres. 102 students were enrolled in 2022, in a total of six classes. We currently have seven instructors.

MICROFINNACE

This project has assisted many deprived individuals residing in rural centres to alleviate poverty through access to interest-free loans for various income-generating activities.

NO. OF BUSINESSES 55

NO. OF LOANS 167

AMOUNT 1,792,000

TESTIMONIAL WITH A BENEFICIARY

(Mwanasiti Mwahozi)

How did you know about the Women's Group? *I am one of the founding members*

When did the group start? *It was started in 2011.*

What is the

average weekly savings amount? how much do you save weekly? *I save between Kshs. 200-500/-*

How many times have you taken a loan? *Six times*

What business are you currently doing? *I have a rental house and a tailoring business, in which I also sell Deras, Lessos and Materials for the stitching of uniforms.*

When did you start these businesses? *I started my tailoring business in 2017. The rental block was completed in 2020. It has 2 shops and 1 house.*

How much capital did you require? *I started my tailoring business with Kshs. 10,000/- and used it to buy stock such as materials. I already had a sewing machine. For the rental house, I took several loans amounting to Kshs.155,000/- and used part of my savings to complete the structure.*

For your tailoring business, how much is your current stock worth? *My stock is worth ksh. 50,000/-*

What are the benefits of operating a business? *My life and that of my family have changed completely. I am able to provide for my family's basic needs, as well as to ensure that my children are receiving a good education.*

What are your future business Plans? *I plan on saving as much income as possible so that I can purchase an electric singer machine as well as an overlock and zigzag sewing machine to enhance my work.*

ABAYA DISTRIBUTION

Maintaining hijab modesty is mandatory for Muslim ladies. For the first time, Bilal Kenya embarked on an Abaya Distribution project, so that girls could attend madrasa in their abayas instead of coming in various locally sourced and sometimes inappropriate lessos. We distributed a total of 818 newly stitched abayas.



RELIEF RESPONSE

FOOD RELIEF

With the generous support provided by The Mainstay Foundation, Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya was able to provide



food packs to over 4,000 families within the 15 Bilal Kenya Centre communities and extended its support to the neighboring Independent Shia Centres, Sunni Masajid & Churches. The food packs would last a family of 4-6 persons for about 20 days. The distribution was done in three phases; February, March and April. Each food pack distributed contained 12kgs of maize flour during each distribution. With generous support provided by the Mainstay Foundation, we were able to provide food packs to over 4,000 families residing within the 15 Bilal Kenya Centre communities. Support was also extended to neighboring independent shia centres, sunni masjid and churches. The food packs, containing 12kgs of maize flour, were estimated to last a family of 4 to 6 people about 20 days. Distribution was carried out during the months of February, March and April.

MEDICAL CAMP

In conjunction with Jaffery Medical, we organize mobile medical camps in our centres. Jaffery medical dispatches both doctors and pharmacists to the field. This happens on monthly basis with specific days for each centre. This program has helped families and brought medical services closer to the people. The communities are seen by doctors and issued medicines free of charge.





CONSTRUCTION

The projects carried out in different centres are the Renovation of Existing Structures, Construction of New Structures, and Landscaping Activities. The following follows what was conducted in the respective centers during the period 1st January to 31st December 2022. Construction activities were carried out in various centres this year and included the renovation of existing structures, the construction of new buildings and landscaping activities.

SHIMONI CENTRE

- Renovation of the mosque, 2 madrassa classes, Maalim's residence and toilets.
- Renovation of 2 Pre-Primary classrooms. Equip Children's playground with various play items e.g. swings, etc.

SAMBURU CENTRE

- Renovation of the mosque, 3 madrassa classes and Maalim's residence.
- Construction of new modern toilets.
- Renovation of 2 pre-Primary classrooms.
- Upgraded the kitchen and transformed it into a modern structure.
- Extension of the ladies' prayer hall.
- Equip children's' playground with various play items e.g. swings, etc.

MACKINNON RD CENTRE

- Renovation of 2 Pre-Primary Classes and 2 Madrassa Classes.

- Upgraded the tamheed classroom into a modern structure.
- Renovation of 2 tailoring classrooms.
- Renovation of the mosque.
- Renovation of Maalim;s residence.
- Renovate toilets.
- Equip childrens' playground with various play items e.g. swings, etc.

CHENGONI CENTRE

- Construction of a new modern Pre-Primary Unit complete with modern facilities e.g. toilets, dining hall, kitchen, office block, fence with gate, and children's playground equipment.





MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION

Through various forms of media, we have been able to disseminate information to the public and our stakeholders. This year, we documented and shared all the activities and projects we were engaged in at the different centres. The world today is undeniably digital, hence Bilal has been using its social media space to reach a wider audience. Our first Instagram post this year highlighted the feed a child program. Tabligh is an integral part of Bilal's work and this year, all the majalaas and events organized were streamed live and pre-recorded. The media department was gracious enough to offer internship opportunities to many media students hailing from different communities, providing them with hands-on experience and assisting them in shaping their careers.

STUDIO RENOVATION

We have renovated our studio at the main office in Mombasa. The space was partitioned into the main studio and the editing or transmission room. We enhance the sound system by installing modern sound acoustic panels.

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Bilal Muslim Mission of Kenya sincerely appreciates the continuous financial aid we have received from the Federation of Khoja Shia Ithnasheri Jamaats of Africa, World Federation of the Khoja Shia Ithnasheri Muslim Communities, The Khoja Shia Ithnasheri Jamaat of Mombasa, the Central Bilal Board and all other organizations and individual donors for supporting various activities conducted throughout the year.

May Allah (S.W.T) reward them abundantly for their efforts.

TO SUPPORT US

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