

The President's Message

As we approach 2022, the DRF family would like to thank our generous donors one more time for enabling us to make 2021 another successful year despite all the challenges we met. All schools supported by DRF not only were able to operate online and in-person, but they also maintained their excellence in accomplishing the best success rate during the 2020-2021 school year. Also, Imam Al-Hujjah Hospital provided quality and affordable healthcare services for over 200,000 patients (in & outpatients) and saved the lives of thousands, especially at the peak of the first, second and third wave of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We at DRF are especially proud of the great accomplishment of 2021 when 12 of our orphan students graduated as dentists, engineers, pharmacists, lab technicians and medical assistants. Photos of some of these bright young professionals are included in this newsletter. Special thanks to the Khaki Foundation for its generous support and educational grants that enable DRF to provide loans for such disadvantaged but bright individuals to pursue their higher education and realize their dreams.

We wish you a happy, prosperous, and productive year of 2022. We would love to hear from you. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or would like more information.

You truly make a difference.

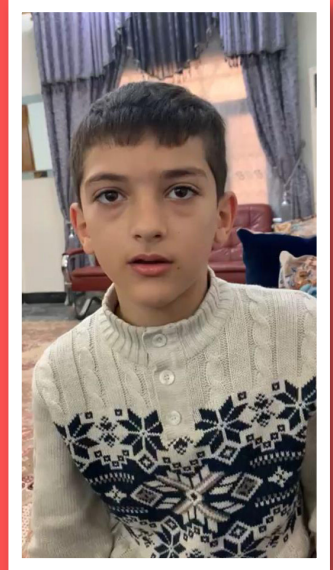
Sayed Ali Ghazvini

President

Empower Orphans to Dream Big

Muhammad Hussain Hashim is 10 years old. In 2014, when Muhammad was four years old, his dad was killed at age 28 by the terrorist group ISIS. Muhammad is the youngest of his three other siblings. The oldest is Ali, who is 15 years old.

Every morning at 7:00 AM Muhammad stands outside his small one-bedroom home waiting for DRF's school bus to pick him up and take him to the orphan school. He is in 5th grade. Muhammad loves his school to the point that he would like to attend school during the weekend as well.



DRF schools offer 2-4 sets of clothing/uniforms and a \$600 financial stipend for the orphan students every year. DRF schools also provide a hot nourishing meal every day and food package for the families almost every month.

In addition, orphan students get free of charge healthcare treatment at the Imam Al-Hujjah Hospital (IHH). DRF's poverty eradication efforts for orphans have saved and changed the lives of thousands of children and their families.

Muhammad would like to be an IT engineer when he grows up. This holiday season you can contribute toward his dream as well as the dream

of other orphans in Iraq. Your continued support will enable DRF to help orphans like Muhammad to realize their dreams.



DRF has been selected as one of the 2021 top rated nonprofit organizations in its area.

Imam Al-Hujjah hospital is in need of 45 patients beds.

Would you please sponsor one!

You may dedicate it in the name of loved ones

\$1,450 Each





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**You May Sponsor Any
of these Orphans or
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as \$60/month**

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**DEVELOPMENT
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**GIVE BACK
WHILE YOU
SHOP**

You can now give back to orphans, widows, and the less fortunate while you shop essentials. DRF can now be found on AmazonSmile, and every time you make a purchase, a portion of those funds will go directly to DRF. use the link:

[tiny.cc/DRF-Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=A_Smile_Chp_Card)

To make DRF your preferred charity.



Bodour was born into a very ordinary family. Her dream from an early age was to become a dentist. She grew up in constant thought of this dream. When she was a child, she used to always play the role of dentist when playing pretend, to the extent that her family used to call her "Doctor" even when not playing. This dream of becoming a dentist stayed in her mind year after year.

One day, Bodour woke up to the sound of screaming near her room. She sadly and suddenly found that her father had passed away.

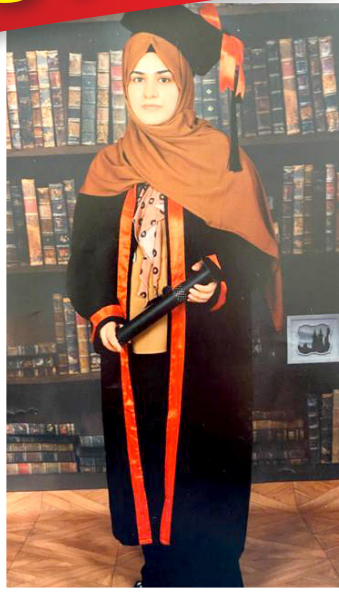
In the coming days Bodour's world changed and with time she realized that all her dreams were slowly shattering. Life became unbearable as the breadwinner of her family passed away. But more than that- the voice of her father encouraging her to pursue her childhood dream of becoming a dentist also vanished.

However, Bodour recalls that thoughts of her dream of becoming a dentist kept creeping into her mind as she progressed through school. As she advanced in her studies, the costs of her studies became a heavy burden on her mother, and her dream became unattainable.

Bodour now tells us that this all changed when she joined Al-Salihah High School Academy (A Development and Relief Foundation School). In this school she found a source of strength and hope.

We'd like to share with you some words from Bodour

A Success STORY



as she reflects on her journey to achieving her dream.

"The school and the teaching staff were like my family. They embraced me and provided me with moral and material support by developing my skills and enhancing my mental, physical, and nutritional wellness. My friends and I were in a school environment full of love, attention, and dedication. I never liked to leave my school.

In addition, my teachers identified my talent and provided me with an intensive tutoring program that allowed me to be independent in studying, and thus my dream came true, and I got an average of 97%, which qualified me to enter the Faculty of Medicine. Thankfully, I have now graduated and become a dentist. I practice my profession with pride. The Development and Relief Foundation and its affiliated institutions have radically changed my life and made my dream come true.

Through their help, I learned to be a generous person, help needy people, and assist every ambitious person to achieve

his/her dream. Today, my joy is unparalleled, and I extend my appreciation and gratitude to the Development and Relief Foundation and to all the donors who made this dream come true."

We are extremely proud of Bodour for all that she has accomplished and wish her all the best as she continues her journey in the field of dentistry.

Kicking Off the 2021-2022 School Year



With much preparation, renovation, and enthusiasm, DRF schools' staff welcomed students to start their education this fall. 90 percent of the students are orphan children. DRF schools provide quality education for more than 760 students pre-K- 12 grade in a very safe environment. DRF students attend school for at least 180 day/year while public schools in Iraq teach for less than 120 days/year. Perhaps this is what has allowed graduates from Salihat Academy, for example, to get accepted at top schools in the nation. At DRF



we strongly believe that community development and nation-building start with education. Therefore, DRF puts high emphasis on providing quality education for students which turns out to be the best form of investment in young adults, particularly those from low-income families. Making a monthly donation to DRF goes a long way to secure the future of an orphan child. DRF asks you to put a smile on the face of an orphan by donating generously this season.

Honoring our Valedictorians



Zahra Hatim
Pharmacy



Zainab Hatem
Dentistry



Teeba Emad Al-Musawi
Dentistry



Yosor Emad Al-Musawi
Laboratory Technician



Thank you, "Khaki Foundation"

A big thanks to our partner the Khaki Foundation for the generous "Educational Grant" that enabled the above students to accomplish their goals and make their dreams come true.

Ali is Able to Walk Again: Life Changing Operation at Imam Al-Hujjah Hospital

Ali Hussam, a 16-year-old Iraqi boy, came to Imam Al-Hujjah Hospital seeking treatment for his serious muscle weakness and numbness in his arms, torso, and legs. He was immediately admitted for testing. To identify the cause, he underwent a CT scan and MRI in the Al-Hujjah Hospital Radiology Department. His test results revealed a major fracture in his spine, specifically in the second cervical vertebra. He also had evidence of an injury in the spinal cord between the large opening of the foramen magnum and the second cervical vertebra which explained his trouble with very basic motor functions. Essentially Ali was severely disabled to the point of being unable to care for himself. Imam al-Hujjah Hospital staff worked tirelessly, performing all the necessary medical examinations and laboratory tests, in hopes of being able to help him regain muscle function. Once a plan was determined and the necessary surgical arrangements were made, Ali was admitted into the surgical theater. Neurosurgeon, Dr. Hazim Moojid, performed vertebral fixation on Ali's spine, a procedure which takes over four hours of skilled attention. With the grace of Allah and the blessings of the land of Karbala, the surgery was a great success for the young



man as his mobility started to improve immediately after. Ali is now able to walk briskly, move around freely, and has almost fully regained all his intermediary motor skills. The impact that this successful procedure will have on his life cannot be measured. The happiness and relief Ali feels cannot be expressed in words. It is donors like you that help DRF and the Al-Hujjah hospital to provide healing and love to patients like Ali. This is one of countless stories that we share to relay the impact of your support. We pray you can continue your generous support to this noble cause.