

MEDIA RELEASE
13 September 2023



SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN COLLECTION

Morocco Earthquake Appeal

The Rahmatan Lil Alamin (Blessings to all) Foundation (RLAF), in collaboration with the Singapore Red Cross, is organizing a collection to support the immediate needs of communities affected by the earthquake in Morocco. These needs include evacuation, first aid, transporting the wounded to the hospital and psychological support, as well as assistance in relief, water sanitation and healthcare.

Impact of Earthquake on Affected Communities

2. On 8 September 2023 just after 11 pm local time, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Morocco's Marrakesh–Safi region, the largest in over a century and ever recorded instrumentally in Morocco's modern history. With many homes and infrastructure damaged or destroyed by the quake, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimated about 300,000 people from Marrakesh and the surrounding areas had been affected. The deadliest in the country since 1960, the quake has claimed the lives of more than 2,800 people and left more than 2,500 people injured, according to the latest official toll. These numbers are expected to increase. With much of the quake zone in hard-to-reach areas, authorities have not issued any estimates for the number of missing. Our hearts go out to the casualties of this humanitarian emergency and their families.

Collection Period

3. For this reason, the RLAF is conducting an online collection starting Thursday, 14 September 2023 to Wednesday, 27 September 2023 to support the immediate needs of survivors and affected communities.

4. Members of the public can make their donation via the following avenues:

- a. **PayNow** – you would need to key in **RLAF's UEN: 200910530ZRLA** and indicate under remarks – **MOROCCOEARTHQUAKE** (Refer to **Annex A** for QR Code)
- b. **Giving.SG** – campaign at giving.sg/rlafoundationsg/MoroccoEarthquake2023
- c. **Interbank transfer** via RLAF (Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation) – Transfer to OCBC Current Account at a/c no: 601313315001 or
- d. Issue a **cheque** payable to 'RLAF'. State on back of cheque: donor's name, contact number and indicate "**Morocco Earthquake 2023**". Mail your cheque to RLAF (Masjid Yusof Ishak, No 10, Woodlands Drive 17, Singapore 737740) or to MUIS (No. 273 Braddell Road, Singapore 579702).

5. In addition, all mosques across Singapore will participate in this special collection through donation boxes starting from Friday, 15 September 2023 (3pm onwards) to Friday, 22 September 2023. Members of the community can contribute their donations via these boxes which will be marked 'Morocco Earthquake Appeal'.

6. All collection will be channeled through the Singapore Red Cross which is working with Red Cross Red Crescent partners on the ground, including the Moroccan Red Crescent Society (MRCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to deliver aid to affected communities. Please be informed that as per regulations by the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) the donations are not tax-deductible as they are for "foreign charitable purposes". For more

information, please contact Ms Zarifah Rohani at 9239 7584 or email at zarifah@rlafoundation.org.sg.
Alternatively, you may contact Ms Maryam Marhim at 9652 1474 or email at maryam_mohd_marhim@muis.gov.sg.

RAHMATAN LIL ALAMIN FOUNDATION (RLAF)

ANNEX A: QR CODE FOR PAYNOW

To donate, log in to your digital banking app and scan the above QR code image under the app's Scan and Pay function. Donors would need to key in **RLAF's UEN:200910530ZRLA** and indicate **'MOROCCOEARTHQUAKE'** under remarks.



ANNEX B: ABOUT THE RAHMATAN LIL ALAMIN (BLESSINGS TO ALL) FOUNDATION

The Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation (RLAF) was launched by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in July 2009 coinciding with the 40th Anniversary celebrations of the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (Muis) and the official opening of the Singapore Islamic Hub.

'Rahmatan Lil Alamin' is the Arabic for 'Blessings To All' which is the inspiration behind the establishment of the RLAF. It seeks to fund activities that bring blessings to all irrespective of creed, race or religion including the environment.

The Foundation was established by Muis to provide grants for humanitarian and community development projects and initiatives. The Foundation aims to spread the message of compassion for all humanity and concretising, within the Singapore Muslim community, the ethos of being a community that is a blessing to all. Through the grants, the Foundation hopes to build capacity and deeper interest amongst youths, and empower them to have the skills, capabilities and passion to volunteer and participate in humanitarian work locally and beyond.

Over the past 17 years, the mosques and RLAF have collected over **\$12 million** from the community for international **humanitarian relief projects**. Recent projects include:

1. 2021 Humanitarian Aid for Gaza
2. 2021 Yemen Humanitarian Appeal
3. 2022 Typhoon Rai in the Philippines
4. 2022 In Aid of Malaysia Flood Survivors
5. 2022 Afghanistan Earthquake Collection
6. 2022 Pakistan Floods Emergency Appeal
7. 2022 West Java Earthquake Collection
8. 2023 Turkiye and Syria Earthquake Emergency Appeal