



# A.C.R.P /RfP Asia Asian Conference of Religions for Peace Religions for Peace Pakistan Chapter

Greetings from Pakistan

Indeed these are troubled times and a crisis of this nature and a pandemic the world has not seen before has resulted in everyone being afraid. However the positive things that have emerged in these circumstances have been the renewed faith of all people all over the world. People have realized that being rich or poor does not matter as this virus knows no boundaries, no race, no gender, no religion and no country. People have come closer to their religion and their faiths have become stronger as they realize that only prayer and faith can save them apart from taking the precautions. Also people are helping each other regardless of any distinction of religion or creed or race. The only intention is to **SAVE HUMANITY FROM THIS PANDEMIC.**

In Pakistan we have also experienced this as we have been in lock down since 23 March till date. All the religious leaders in Pakistan belonging to different faiths and sects have come together on one table to follow the instructions and guidelines of the government. They have agreed to cooperate with the government initiatives for preventing this pandemic from spreading.

For the first time the congregation in Jumma Prayers was limited to only 3 to 5 persons which included the people in the Mosques.

The different religious leaders are conveying the message to all their community but using the loudspeakers in the mosques and churches and temples to stay at home, to practice social distancing, and to wash their hands to wear masks.

The people of the Islamic faith while spraying disinfectants are also spraying in the temples and churches.

The religious leaders in their prayers now broad casted via you tube or social media are praying for all humanity not only for people of one religion. Since Pakistan is a poor country and nearly 40 percent of its population are daily wages earners the lock down has affected them the most and now they do not have food in their homes. The religious leaders have also issued a notification that please do not wait for Ramazan to take out the ZAKAT but we all should give now. They are also stressing on the importance of helping others especially by way of food and medical supplies.

Therefore Religions for Peace Pakistan/ ACRP Pakistan Chapter has started a grocery distribution drive to the poor.

We are collecting money in the form of charity and ZAKAT in collaboration with Rotary Club of Karachi Bay and distributing it to the poor. We are also giving money to other charitable organizations which are working for this cause. Also to animal organizations as many stray animals are also going hungry because of the lock down and some have been abandoned. As we believe that every drop counts.

In addition we have received the generous offer from CCRP who is donating a 10000 masks so that we can distribute them.

In such times we in Religions for Peace Family stand together with the rest of the world in helping people with renewed faith that **WE TOGETHER WITH THE HELP OF THE ALMIGHTY WILL OVERCOME THIS PANDEMIC.**

Huma Ikramullah  
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