

A BEACON OF HOPE AISHA'S STORY IN MARIB

In the dust-swept expanse of Al-Rak Camp in Marib City, where tens of thousands of displaced families seek refuge, Aisha Ali, a 35-year-old widow, embodies the resilience of countless

Yemeni women. After leaving her home in Amran Governorate in 2022, she arrived in Marib with her ten children, determined to keep them alive despite immense challenges.

Aisha's new reality consisted of a fragile shelter made of mud, branches, and torn fabric—barely protecting them from the elements. Inside, a worn-out mattress and a small cooking corner defined their living conditions. Privacy was a luxury they could not afford; their bathroom was a curtained two-square-meter space near an open sewage pit. As the sole provider, Aisha faced the burden of caring for her children and her co-wife, who was seven months pregnant.

The challenges were relentless. Poverty loomed over them, malnutrition threatened her children's health, and healthcare was almost unattainable. Their situation worsened when her 13-year-old son, Nasser, broke his knee while gathering firewood. "Every day felt like a fight to survive," Aisha recalls. "There was no safe shelter, not enough food, and no medicine for my son. I felt suffocated by helplessness."



That help came from Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA), supported by Yemen Humanitarian Fund (YHF), under the project "Provision of Essential Life-Saving and Life-Sustaining Multisectoral Support to the Most Vulnerable Communities in Marib City and Khab Wa Ash Sha'f Districts." This intervention prioritized protection, starting with psychosocial support sessions that allowed Aisha to share her pain. Gradually, her outlook shifted, and hope began to replace despair.

A pivotal moment was the provision of cash assistance for protection, empowering Aisha to improve her family's dignity and safety. She constructed a secure bathroom, repaired their shelter, and acquired essential household items. "Today, we have a private bathroom that protects our dignity and a safe shelter that keeps us dry," Aisha says, filled with newfound strength. "Most importantly, we feel human again—we feel hope."

The impact of YFCA's support extended to urgent medical needs. Nasser received surgery and comprehensive care through external referrals arranged by the protection team. Within weeks, he was walking again, and Aisha's co-wife accessed reproductive healthcare for a safe pregnancy and delivery.



Reflecting on the support, Aisha states, “The assistance from YFCA brought life back to us when we were losing everything.” She has transformed from a woman silenced by despair into a voice of resilience, motivating others in the camp to seek help. A social worker observed, “Our intervention in Aisha’s case was more than an emergency response; it was about saving a family on the verge of collapse. It restored dignity, trust, and hope.”



Aisha's story exemplifies the profound effects of integrated humanitarian action. In the context of ongoing conflict, the coordinated efforts of YFCA and YHF demonstrate that even in devastation, lives can be rebuilt and hope reignited.

As Aisha symbolizes, true humanitarian work lies in recognizing and nurturing the resilience of those who have lost everything. Her journey from fear to safety stands as a testament to a vital truth: “We may not be able to end the conflict, but we can plant hope in every tent that has lost safety.”