



مركز الملك سلمان
للإغاثة والأعمال الإنسانية
KING SALMAN
HUMANITARIAN AID & RELIEF CENTRE

MONTHLY BULLETIN

JULY 2020



ARTIFICIAL LIMBS CENTERS

The Artificial Limbs Centers were funded and established by KSrelief in response to the large number of amputations occurring among Yemen's civilian population due to land mine incidents which have caused death, injuries and permanent disabilities to many Yemenis. The Artificial Limbs Centers provide amputees with prosthetic devices and rehabilitative care. Patients receive all services free of charge. To date, 5,127 people in Yemen have benefited from the center's services. The total cost of the project is USD 5,177,801.

Amputees who are referred to one of the centers are first evaluated both physically and psychologically to determine the suitability of their overall condition to the use of artificial limbs. Devices are then custom-made for each amputee by the center's technicians. Once the prosthetic devices have been fitted to the patients, specialized rehabilitation teams help them learn to use and adjust to their new limbs. Once they have mastered the use of their prostheses, amputees return home with improved mobility and renewed confidence.

The Artificial Limbs Centers Project not only provides for patient care, but has also included training for more than 100 Yemeni cadres in several fields: manufacturing and installing prostheses, physical rehabilitation, and psychological support services. Localized capacity- building is one key to providing sustainable services into the future.

DESPITE GENDER DISCRIMINATION, FAYDA BECAME THE FIRST YEMENI FEMALE PROSTHETIC NURSE



Fayda Ali Al Nasserri
(age 28)

Fayda is an ambitious young Yemeni woman who joined the employee training course at the Artificial Limbs Center in Ma'rib in 2018. After finishing her nursing studies, Fayda was excited to begin her course in prosthetics manufacturing and installation, but faced a number of challenges on her new career path. The course itself was technically very difficult, and there weren't any women working in Yemen in this field. While she worked hard to master the skills needed to do the job, she faced criticism from some in her local community about her employment in this traditionally male-dominated profession.

However, with the support and encouragement of her family and the center's team, she successfully completed her training, with high marks from her training supervisors. Fayda then became the first Yemeni woman to be employed at the Ma'rib Artificial Limbs Center, and the support and empowerment she received at the center have opened doors in her community, inspiring many other young Yemeni women to become interested in entering this field. The second phase of the operation of the Artificial Limbs Centers Project was completed when Fayda herself installed the 300th prosthetic limb for an amputee being treated at the center.



MASAM

The Saudi Project for Landmine Clearance (MASAM) was launched in 2018 as part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's commitment to helping the people of Yemen. The goal of the project is to clear Yemen of all land mines and other explosive devices which were planted by Houthi militias throughout the country – many of them in highly-populated areas.

Landmines pose a serious threat to the people of Yemen, and have killed and injured thousands of innocent Yemenis, including children, women and the elderly. The many permanent disabilities resulting from these mines have caused a significant burden to health care and treatment facilities in the country, and have caused great economic losses to both individuals and society as a whole.

KSrelief has adopted a comprehensive approach to addressing the issue of landmines by implementing the MASAM project to deactivate the deadly devices. Teams of foreign experts and Yemeni cadres continue the dangerous, ongoing work to demine Yemen, while three artificial limbs centers supported by KSrelief provide urgently-needed treatment to the victims of landmine injuries, helping them to regain mobility and hope.

OBJECTIVES

1. To clear Yemen of land mines and enhance security throughout Yemen.
2. To help the Yemeni people address the humanitarian tragedies resulting from the proliferation of landmines.
3. To establish mechanisms for sustainable humanitarian mine-removal by empowering and training local cadres in deactivating these devices.

175,124

mines have been cleared since the launch of the project

AP mines

2,182

AT mines

54,221

UXO

113,737

IED

4,984

HOPE RESTORED



EHAB

Ehab was born with a condition commonly known as “dwarfism”, which is defined as “short stature resulting from a genetic or medical condition”. His mother explained that by the time Ehab was in the second year of high school, his condition was a major obstacle to his mobility and ability to function. Even his 17 kilograms of body weight were too much for Ehab’s legs to carry; he couldn’t climb stairs navigate on his own over the rugged terrain near his home. With all of these challenges, Ehab’s dream of completing his education seemed impossible.

Then, his mother found out about KSrelief’s Artificial Limbs Center in Taiz, which offers extensive physical rehabilitation services for the disabled. Hoping to improve the ability of his lower limbs to carry his body, Ehab began a course of physical therapy to help him become stronger and improve his mobility. With the help of the center, he hopes to someday be able to move more easily, complete his education and go on to fulfill his other dreams for the future.

FATIMA AHMED

Fatima (age 40) was working as a shepherd in her small village of Al Shagab in the Taiz Governorate. One morning, she went to a nearby valley on foot to look for a good place to take her livestock to graze; during her walk, she stepped on a Houthi-deployed land mine. Her right foot was blown off on the spot, and she was greatly affected by the injury. She could not return to her work as a shepherd, and became depressed about her condition. Eventually, Fatima decided that she needed to improve her situation, and made her way to the Artificial Limbs Center, where she found new hope for the future. Within a short time, her custom-made artificial leg enabled Fatima to stand and walk on her own again, and she is proud of her new independence.

M. BALGHITH

While Muhammad was trying to save a wounded person in the town of Hayran in the Al Hudaydah governorate, he was shot in the left leg. “I underwent treatment at the hospital for 6 months,” the 25-year-old reported, “before the doctors made the difficult decision to amputate my leg just below the knee. My hope for a normal life was immediately gone since I was unable to walk.”

The doctors referred Muhammed to the Artificial Limbs Center, and he arrived there both sad and heartbroken. Right away, the center’s trained experts took measurements to manufacture a prosthetic leg for him. When the device was ready, Muhammed learned how to use it, and following a period of training and rehabilitation, he was very happy with the results. “I began to feel comfortable,” he said, “and the joy of life came back to me! Finally, I was able to walk easily.”

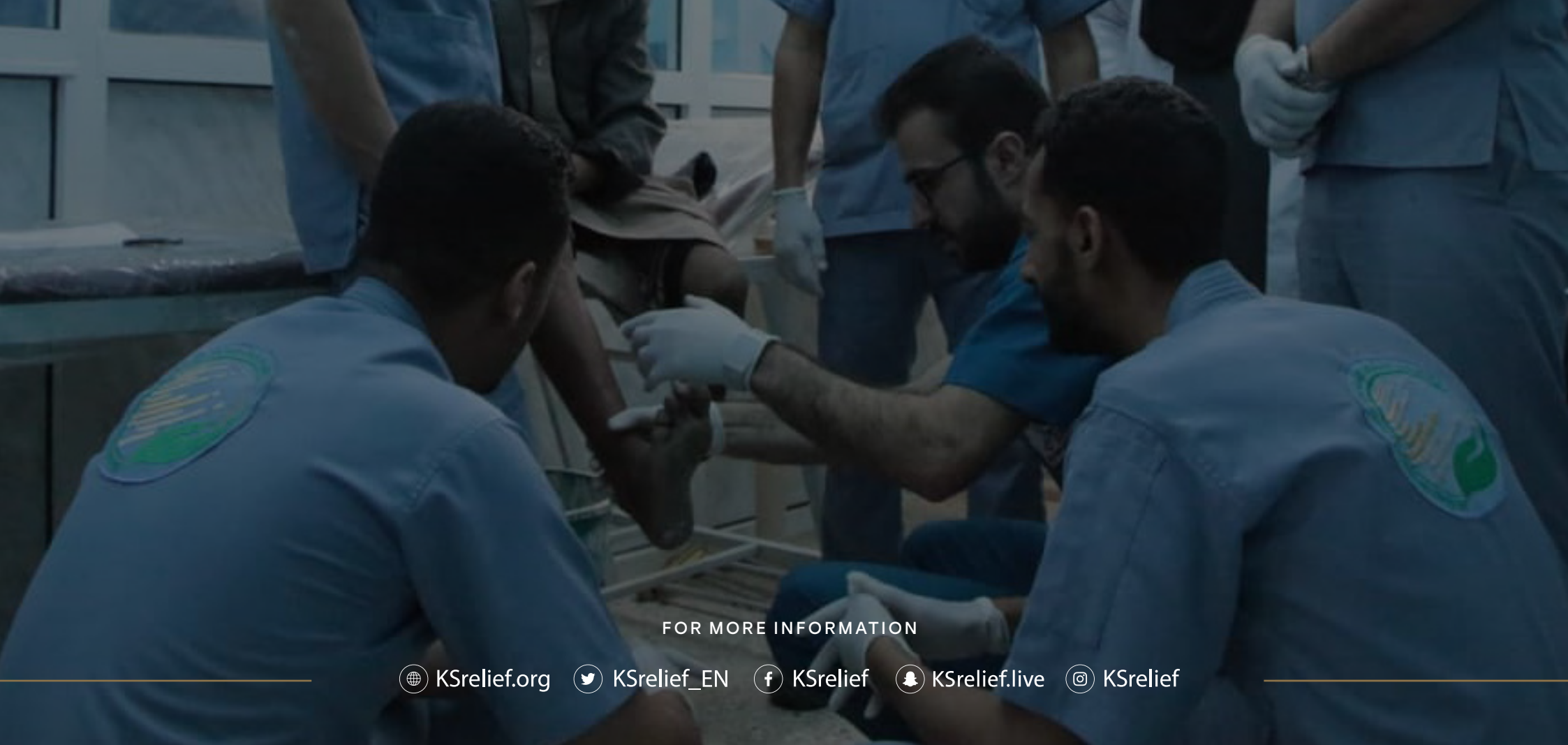
AHMED

Ahmed was living the life of a typical child when one day, while walking through his village, a mine exploded beneath him. After being taken to the hospital, he underwent extensive surgery, during which one of his legs had to be amputated. During his long hospital stay, he suffered both physically and emotionally; when he was finally released to go home, he had to learn to walk with crutches, which was both difficult and very limiting. Eventually, Ahmed was taken to the Artificial Limbs Center, where he was fitted with a prosthetic leg. Today, he can walk easily again, and his future looks bright.

AMMAR AL RADHI

Ammar (age 34) was suffering to the point that he could no longer go out to do his job as a décor engineer. After he lost his right leg due to an encounter with a land mine planted by Houthi militias in the Hajjah Governorate, he was determined to get his life back. “I went to KSrelief’s Artificial Limbs Center in Ma’rib,” he said, “hoping to find a solution to help me end my suffering. I was welcomed by the staff, who evaluated my case and immediately began to work on an artificial limb for me.”

Ammar was so happy after being fitted with his new leg that he celebrated receiving it by running around the center with his five-year-old son. Now Ammar is happy and optimistic about the future. “Words cannot express,” he said, “my thanks and gratitude to the center and the staff. The presence of KSrelief gives hope to those who are in my situation, especially since it is so difficult to travel abroad to receive help like this. The presence of KSrelief here in Yemen alleviates the suffering of many people.”



FOR MORE INFORMATION



[KSrelief.org](https://ksrelief.org)



[KSrelief_EN](#)



[KSrelief](#)



[KSrelief.live](#)



[KSrelief](#)