

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR

31 March 2015

Charity Registration Number 1128955

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

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SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

South Sinai Foundation is a registered charity, whose date of registration was April 1st 2009

Trustees as at 31 March 2015

Ms Nicola Dalby
Prof Francis Gilbert
Dr Hilary Gilbert
Ms Lucy Gilbert
Dr Mike James
Rev Prof Michael Reiss

Principal Address

St Katherine's Cottage
Back Lane
Ingoldsby
Grantham
NG33 4EW

Independent Examiner

Mark Newey, ACMA
Community Accountant
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

Objects of the Charity

For the benefit of the public in particular but not exclusively the local Bedouin communities in South Sinai and the surrounding area by:

1. Relief of Poverty
2. The advancement of education.
3. The promotion and protection of good health.
4. Supporting the Charitable work of the Community Foundation for South Sinai.

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South Sinai Foundation: Report by the Board Chair 2014-15

This was a good year, characterized by growth in the nature and scale of our activity in South Sinai. We increased our charitable expenditure significantly, providing resources both for traditional welfare support to individuals and families in hardship, emergency medical help, and projects - primarily water-focussed - to help whole communities. We also started three small-scale but highly significant development projects, conducted research into wellbeing and child health, and continued to support our long-term work aimed at supporting practical livelihoods. While the region became harder for us to work in as foreigners, the challenges this posed enabled us to develop opportunities for building the skills of our Bedouin team. They rose to the occasion magnificently.

Support from three funders allowed us to establish projects that have grown out of Francis and Hilary Gilbert's **Leverhulme Trust**-funded research. The Haddana is a play and learning centre for deaf and hearing children in a remote desert village. A study led by a geneticist colleague noted the very high incidence of profound deafness among the Mzeina. When they saw our interest in deafness, a group of Mzeina mothers approached us and asked us to help their children become less isolated: deaf Bedouin children are never educated and are rarely employed as adults. A grant from the **University of Nottingham's Cascade Fund** allowed us to respond, and we identified a building in the area where deafness is focussed, made it safe, bought equipment (as well as clothes and shoes) for the children, and established a water tank that serves the whole community. The doors opened in September 2014. As one might expect in a semi-nomadic community, the children who attend vary seasonally, but the daily weekday sessions are generally attended by around 20 children from 27 rotating families. Up to half are profoundly deaf. The children receive a nutritious meal as well as simple instruction in letters and numbers from two trained Bedouin volunteer teachers, volunteer mothers and users of local sign language. Obtaining funding to keep it going is now a top priority.

Seeds of Justice, an American foundation, provided two grants which we used to establish the first advice service run by and for Bedouin women. The need for it was uncovered by our community meetings in 2011-12, when the young Jebeliya woman who led the women's meetings was often besieged by questions. Recognizing the need, Halima - the sister of our Co-ordinator, Mohammed Khedr - embarked with our help on a distance-learning law degree. In 2015 she became the first Jebeliya woman ever to qualify as a lawyer. We are extremely proud of her achievements. Working with her sister-in-law, a qualified nurse, she provides advice and support to women in a domestic setting. This is central to their success, since Bedouin women are denied access to public venues. Around 60 women a month come for confidential advice about their health, marital rights, job opportunities or other specific problems. Very few are educated beyond primary level, if at all, so cannot negotiate the legal minefield of divorce, maintenance and custody, for example.

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Our service has helped numerous women obtain their right to child maintenance payments, kept others out of jail for (no-fault) loan default, and helped others find paid work in adult literacy, schools and offices.

Such Government jobs are now advertized online, making it impossible for most Bedu to see them - but with the help and support of our service, interviews and employment have been secured by numerous women (and even some men). Health information includes dietary and family planning advice, and specific advice against FGM. Since affordable healthcare and impartial advice are unavailable over most of the area we cover, the value of this service is inestimable. Securing its future is another major priority for us.

Finally, the **Global Fund for Community Foundations** gave us grant support for two projects: one has allowed the last skilled maker of Jebeliya metalwork to train four young people - two boys, two girls - in his traditional craft. Whilst marketing their goods has been hard in the tourist downturn, two have managed to find outlets in Cairo, providing a livelihood and preserving their heritage. Meanwhile, led by our trustee Faraj Mahmoud, we set up an informal social enterprise for the high quality local olive oil. This enabled 27 local growers to obtain a good price for their olive crop, with more joining the scheme in 2015. We feel confident it will quickly become self-sustaining, especially once the 1500 olive trees we donated to young growers in 2013 start to bear fruit.

Our research has shown for years that making an honest living is people's top priority. This year we can claim some real success in helping achieve that aim, whether through the projects described above, or initiatives to help individuals - such as providing tools to allow a mechanic to set up shop in a remote wadi. His is now the only local business to service the 4x4 pickups on which desert dwellers rely.

As well as our new projects, ongoing projects and facilities have continued - our drill and portable generator has been borrowed free of charge by 21 families; the community olive oil press was used by 36 families. The livestock bank produced 43 kids this year, each delivered to a family in need. The women's chicken co-op in el Tur still has 20 members, as women whose businesses have taken off leave the scheme, making way for others. Our herd managed by deaf people continues to support ten families. Calculated by average family size (6 in St Katherine, 8 in surrounding areas) these ongoing initiatives alone helped around 900 people in 2014.

Combined with our routine work - providing food for 20 elderly widows, help with emergency medical care, helping fix community wells, dams and houses damaged by rains, supporting people in acute hardship and distributing goods in-kind (food, clothes, blankets and plastic sheeting donated by Egyptian companies and charities) - we estimate that in 2014 over 14,000 people benefitted in some way from the collective efforts of the South Sinai Foundation and its Egyptian-registered partner NGO, the *mo'assessa*.

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Given the size and scale of our funding that is an astonishing total, representing more than a quarter of the whole estimated Bedouin population of South Sinai.

All this activity on the ground would be quite impossible without the dedication and detailed community knowledge of our Bedouin team: especially Mohammed Khedr our Co-ordinator; Halima Khedr and Jemi'a Fitah, our women's advice team; Faraj Mahmoud our Trustee, adviser and olive project leader, and the thirty community link volunteers who keep us in touch with immediate needs on their patch. Our grateful thanks and respect go to all of them, as well as to the funders, companies, charities and individual donors who continue to support our work. We hope you all understand what it means to our communities that people should care about them.

Dr Hilary Gilbert

2nd November 2015

SOUTH SINAI FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the South Sinai Foundation

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act). It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the organisation and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, or
- 2 to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mark Newey ACMA
Derby Community Accountancy Service
Babington Lodge
128 Green Lane
Derby
DE1 1RY

Date

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31st 2015

2014			Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2015
£			£	£	£
3375	Opening Balances		14879	4000	18879
	Receipts				
8872	Grants	note 2	597	8068	8665
33523	Donations and Fundraising		19301	0	19301
3	Interest		28	0	28
42398			19926	8068	27994
	Payments				
25519	Direct Charitable costs	note 3	26774	8905	35679
1374	Costs of managing the Charity	note 4	864	0	864
26894			27639	8905	36544
15504	Surplus/(Deficit) for year		-7713	-837	-8550
18879	Closing Balances		7166	3163	10329

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT MARCH 31st 2015

2014		2015
£		£
18879	Balance at Bank	10329
	Less Creditors	
0	Grants received in advance	0
<u>18879</u>	Net Assets	<u>10329</u>

Treasurer

Date

Chair

Date

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

MARCH 31st 2015

Note 1

The accounts have been prepared using the concessions allowable under SORP 2005 for smaller charities, not subject to an audit (Appendix 5.3).

Note 2

Grants	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Seeds for Justice	597	0	597
University of Nottingham	0	8068	8068
	597	8068	8665

Note 3

Direct Charitable Costs	£
Project costs and donations	28950
Salaries	6729
	35679

Note 4

Costs of managing the Charity	£
Bank charges	614
Accountancy charges	250
	864

Note 5

Restricted Fund balances as at March 31st 2015

	Opening Balance £	Income £	Expenditure £	Closing Balance £
Global Fund for Community Foundations	4000	0	4000	0
University of Nottingham	0	8068	4905	3163
	4000	8068	8905	3163