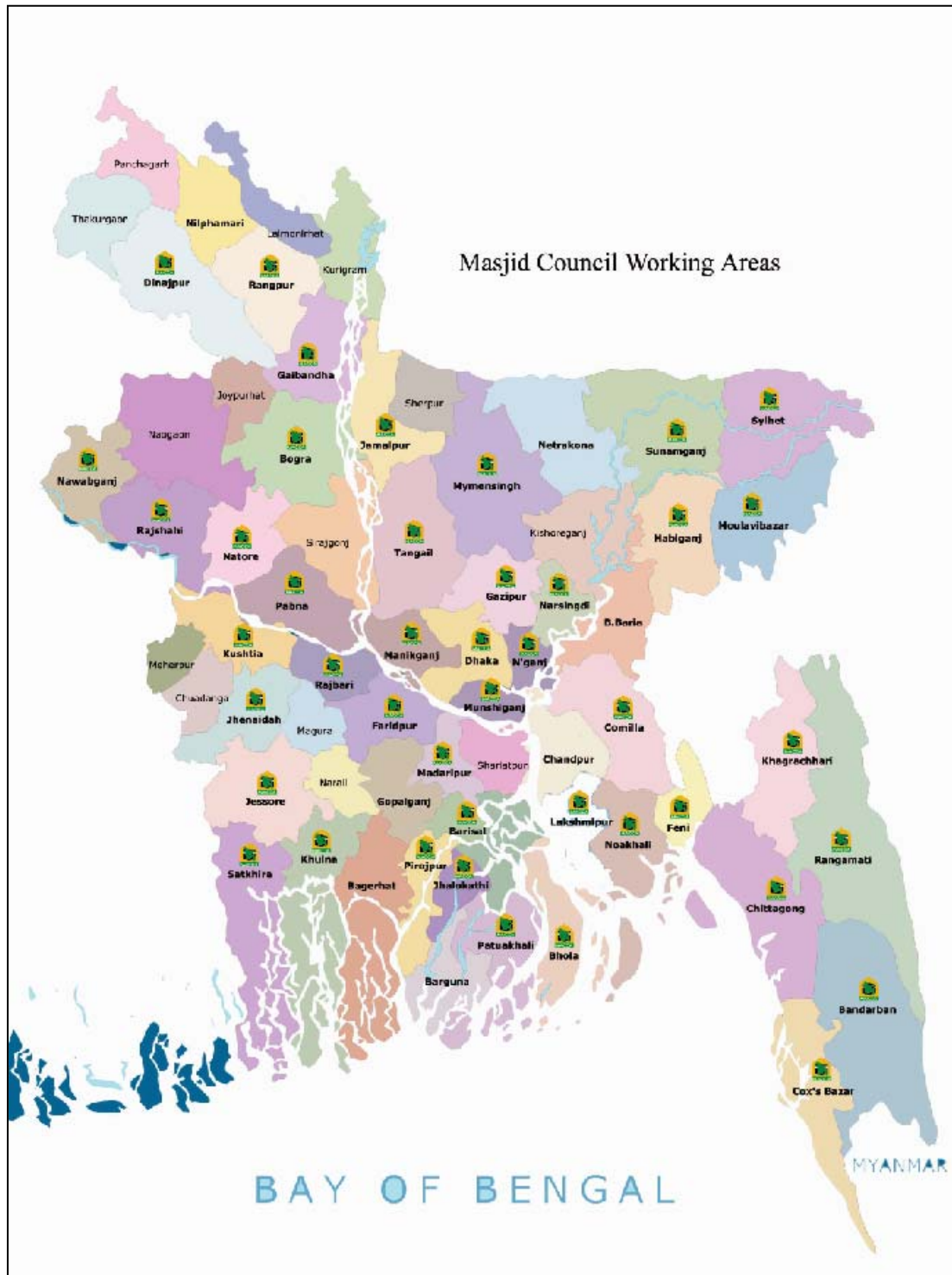


# Annual Report 2008



**Masjid Council** *for Community Advancement* (MACCA)

## *Bangladesh map showing MACCA working areas*



***Chief Editor***

Shah Abdul Baten

***Associate Editors***

Md. Shamsul Haq Nizami

Kazi Obaidul Haque

Md. Sorowar Hossain Choudhury

Kazi Nasir uddin

Sulaiman Ibrahim

***Cover Design and Print***

Masjid Council

Uttara, Dhaka

**MASJID COUNCIL *for Community Advancement* (MACCA)**

House: 6 (floor 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>), Road: 33

Sector: 7, Uttara, Dhaka-1230

Bangladesh

Phone: 88-02-8954305

Fax: 88-02-8922008

Email: [macca@dhaka.net](mailto:macca@dhaka.net)

Web: [www.masjidcouncilbd.org](http://www.masjidcouncilbd.org)

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## Message from Chairman



Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah

Like the previous years we tried our level-best to render efficient and effective services in 2008 to our target people with cordial support from our patrons and well-wishers. Alhamdulillah. As a result of our continuous efforts in 2008 we expanded and strengthened our activities with a good number of mainstream development partners working in the country. We continued rehabilitation work for the victims of past year's flood and cyclone 'sidr'.

In addition to our on-going development and campaign activities we provided consultancy support to BRAC in implementing its water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) program. A pool of 200 *Imams* have been trained and developed as Master Trainers, who are now (in 2009) providing the same training to about 19,000 *Imams/Khatibs* in all forty WASH districts of the country. This program in partnership with BRAC has created huge enthusiasm among the faith leaders as well as the BRAC staff.

The 'development education for faith leaders' started in 2007 came to a successful end with graduating more than 200 leaders of both sexes from all four major faiths (Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Christianity) of the country. The program was implemented with support from the Commonwealth of Learning (COL). We firmly believe that the program has been successful in bridging the gap between the faith leaders and the development players. The graduates are now working as faith ambassadors across the country.

Another example of successful partnership is the Leaders of Influence (LOI) program. This program is a timely initiative of USAID and The Asia Foundation. The program engages and exposes leaders of influence such as lawyers, religious leaders, mosque committee members, youth leaders etc. to modern practices of development and democracy with the overall objective of promoting values of tolerance, diversity, social harmony and understanding in Bangladesh society. As an implementing partner of The Asia Foundation, MACCA actively contributed towards achieving the goal of the program.

We continued the Bangladesh AIDS Program (BAP) in 2008 and humbly claim that the faith leaders could play effective role in preventing of HIV. Like previous years we continued Imam training sessions and the trained Imams delivered HIV-related sermon throughout the country.

As in the past couple of years Masjid Council maintained a complementary relationship with Council for Interfaith Harmony, Bangladesh [CIH, BD]. Together with CIH, BD Masjid Council organized several national-level advocacy sessions on various contemporary issues of huge social importance.

Masjid Council's exclusive program 'Zakah Based Poverty Alleviation' in Manikganj has so far fetched optimistic results. Through this approach the poor and marginalized people, having the ownership of Zakah money, work together to alleviate poverty. The approach has been proved to be really effective and the beneficiaries have become really enthusiastic. Alhamdulillah, In 2008 we replicated the program in two new areas.

What we tried to focus in 2008 is the mindset of the faith leaders. We tried to make them the real change agents. Because we do believe that development and religion are not mutually exclusive, rather complementary to each other. Therefore, if we could bring the faith leaders to the forefront of the development wheel, it will be much easier for us to face the development challenges.

I would like to extend my appreciations to all staff and supporters of Masjid Council for their cordial support and cooperation. I would also express my gratitude to the government of Bangladesh, the development partners and the leaders of different faiths for providing support in implementing our activities across the country.

May Allah [SWT] accept all our noble intentions.

[Moulana] **Abul Kalam Azad**  
**Chairman**  
**Masjid Council for Community Advancement**

## ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND AND APPROACH

Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA) is a leading faith based development, humanitarian and campaigning organization in Bangladesh working for human security, sustainable integrated development, peace and communal harmony.

Registered with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh under Societies Act, MACCA started its interventions in 1999. Soon after it, MACCA obtained registration from the Directorate of Social Welfare; and NGO Affairs Bureau, MACCA has a country wide interfaith network in Bangladesh with trained Imams and leaders and followers from different religions. MACCA's organizational capacity and strong network around the country has placed itself in an ideal position to facilitate faith based partnerships in development and humanitarian work and to initiate culturally appropriate and effective interfaith campaigns to address people's values, misconceptions and behavioral issues deep rooted in culture and traditional practices. Masjid Council has the following vision and mission:

### Vision

Through the implementation of a faith based development model, MACCA works for creating a world free from poverty, inequality, extremism and injustice. Within next five years MACCA would like to see itself playing a mainstream development, humanitarian and campaigning role with wide networks, alliances, partners and offices and launching a long term interfaith campaign to address global human security, extremism, communal harmony, peace and development.

### Mission

Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA) is a faith based development, humanitarian and campaigning organization working for human security, sustainable integrated development, peace and communal harmony. MACCA is dedicated to working with individuals, challenged communities and other development and humanitarian partners to overcome people's vulnerability and sufferings irrespective of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender. Inspired by core values of Islam, MACCA strives for creating an egalitarian society free from poverty, extremism and injustice.

Masjid Council's activities are guided by the following core values:

### Values

All activities of MACCA are guided by the following values and principles—

- **Equality and equity:** MACCA believes that all human beings are born equal and MACCA's work contributes to the equity to address any forms of inequality.
- **Access and inclusion:** MACCA believes in inclusion and access for all regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, social status, or gender.
- **Peace, tolerance and communal harmony:** MACCA strives to promote peace, tolerance and communal harmony through its work.
- **Social rights and responsibilities:** MACCA believes in shared social rights and responsibilities and creates options for people to have the rights and perform the responsibilities.
- **Results:** MACCA is result oriented. Whatever MACCA does, MACCA would like to see its results from the field.

MACCA receives support from individuals, private sector, the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Bangladesh Government, Commonwealth of Learning, USAID, UNAIDS, BRAC, The Asia Foundation and World Bank/Social Development Foundation. MACCA was a bidding partner with Family Health International to take part and win the RFA for the Bangladesh AIDS Program (BAP) from USAID to provide faith based support to HIV and AIDS prevention, care and support. Currently MACCA is implementing the following projects—

- Mosque based non formal schooling program
- Imam training program
- Faith based approach on HIV and AIDS prevention, care and support
- Integrated village development program(*Hasana* approach)
- Income generation program for the poor
- Promotion of gender equity and empowerment of women
- Faith based Integrated development approach
- Complimentary partnership for development
- Primary healthcare and sanitation project
- Village piped water supply project
- Leaders of Influence (LOI) program
- Training and capacity building
- Children welfare program(CWP)
- Research, Campaigning and Advocacy
- Relief and Rehabilitation program
- Elm-e-deen education and Dawah project
- Others

Headquartered at Uttara, Dhaka MACCA has a regional office in Manikganj and 3 other project offices in 3 different sites. In addition, MACCA runs two Children Welfare Homes and has appointed 72 Area Coordinators in 40 different districts and about 100 short-term project-based staff.

## MAJOR ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED IN 2008

### DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- **Mosque Based Education**

The mosque-based education program targets the drop-out children of 6-10 years age group. The learners are taught with formal education texts such as Bengali, English, and Math. In order to promote the morality of the learners they are also given some religious teachings. The duration of the course is three years. The project is supported by the Zakat Board of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, GoB, and donations from different individuals. The learners are expected to join standard III of formal education system after the completion of the course.



The program currently runs 15 centers with a total of 495 learners. In previous year it covered 3,390 learners through 103 centers. Gender parity in enrollment is strictly maintained. 90% of the previous learners have been able to join formal education either in school and madrasa. The Imams act as the teachers of the centers.

Table 1: Showing update on mosque-based education program

| Particulars        |        | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
|--------------------|--------|------|------|------|
| No of Centers      |        | 110  | 103  | 15   |
| No of Students     | Boys   | 1752 | 1750 | 252  |
|                    | Girls  | 1611 | 1640 | 243  |
|                    | Total  | 3363 | 3390 | 495  |
| Number of Teachers | Male   | 101  | 98   | 15   |
|                    | Female | 12   | 5    | 0    |
|                    | Total  | 113  | 103  | 15   |

- **Imam Training**

The Imam Training program aims to promote the capacity of Imams of different mosques of Bangladesh. Bangladesh is a Muslim country in terms of number of people having faith in Islam. Mosques are most readily available and accessible institutions and approximately there have been 0.5 million mosques in the country. MACCA firmly believes that if the Imams of the mosques are rightly oriented with socio-economic issues, apart from their customary religious role, they can make miracle in the country. Most of the people of the country attend the Juma



prayer and thus the Friday sermon (*khutba*) can be a good tool to disseminate information in the community on various issues concerning socio-economic development. Under this backdrop, the project offers different kind of training to Imams for raising their capacity and understanding. Till the end of 2008 the program trained up more than 10,000 *Imams*.

- **Faith Based Approach to HIV/AIDS Prevention**

Since there is no curative measure invented till today, therefore, prevention is the only solution to the deadly threats of HIV/AIDS. The influence of faith is globally and greatly accepted and recognized in the prevention, care and support procedure of HIV and AIDS. MACCA, being supported by **Family Health International (FHI)** - a partner of USAID, has been working to promote the awareness of the community people about HIV/AIDS. Primarily the program involves Imams but looks forward to involving other faith people. Under this project, MACCA organizes Training for Faith Leaders, TV-Talk Shows, and Interfaith Dialogue/Seminar etc. In 2008, more than 700 Imams have been trained and 2 million people have been reached through Friday sermon.

Table 2: Activity Report of HIV Prevention Program

| SL # | NAME OF Activities                      | Achievement |           |         |
|------|---|-------------|-----------|---------|
|      |   | 2006        | 2007      | 2008    |
| 01   | Imam training                           | 29          | 42        | 29      |
| 02   | Number of trainees                      | 733         | 1045      | 715     |
| 03   | People attended Friday sermons          | 942,328     | 120,5550  | 829,146 |
| 04   | Interfaith talk-show on NTV             | 4           | 5         | 4       |
| 05   | People watched the talkshow (estimated) | 2,000,000   | 4,500,000 | 2040000 |
| 06   | National Interfaith seminar             | 1           | 1         | 1       |
| 07   | People attend the seminar               | 325         | 125       | 120     |
| 08   | Friday Sermon guide development         | 1           | -         | -       |
| 09   | Imam training module development        | 1           | -         | -       |
| 10   | World AIDS Day Campaign                 | 1           | 1         | 1       |
|      |   |             |           |         |

- **Integrated Village Development Project**

The project adopts an integrated approach to community development focusing overall aspects of development, education and livelihood. The core concept behind the project is strengthening relationships among the neighbors-making them sensitive to the needs others living in the community. The core component of the project is **Parshi**. A **Parshi** (a Bengali word means neighbor), involving 30-40 people of the same locality (mainly neighbors) living under poverty, sits



together to sort out their problems and solutions as well to them. PRA tool is applied to identify community needs. In a community there can be a number of *Parshi(s)*. It has various development components such as health, sanitation, education, income generation, capacity building, and leadership building etc. Resourceful community people contribute to financial support of the project in the form of zakat. Apart from individual zakat money, the Zakat Board of the GoB also supports the project. In all interventions community ownership is ensured. Participation in the program is family based and gender equity is strictly maintained. The vision of the project is to solve the community problems through community leadership and preferably through community resources. The major tasks of MACCA under the project are to enhance the capacity of the Parshi people, link them up with existing service delivery institutions, and mobilize community resources etc.

The program currently runs in (i) Chandirchar Village under Zagir Union Parishad in Manikgonj Sadar Upazailla; and (ii) Par Tilli-Char Tilli, Saturaia, Manikganj with active participation of the beneficiaries. The number of Parshi stands as of now 13 that engage approximately 521 families. The project is expected to be replicated in other parts of the country after the successful completion of this initial phase.

Table 3: IDEAL village program (IVP) and its achievement

| <b>Name of Activities</b>          | <b>2006</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>2008</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total number of household          | 845         | 1561        | 1561        | 1561         |
| Education centre                   | 4           | 3           | 3           | 14           |
| Number of parshi                   | 3           | 13          | 13          | 13           |
| Parshi Member                      | 281         | 496         | 496         | 802          |
| Fund allocated                     | 600,000     | 1840000     | 2950000     | 2950000      |
| Health care centre (No of patient) | 545         | 750         | 598         | 2383         |
| Sanitary growth centre             | 01          | 01          | 01          | 01           |

### **Income Generation Project (IGP)**

The Income Generation Project (IGP), having resemblance with the IVP, works through more than one hundred groups to cover 3,351 beneficiaries with various income promotion activities. The beneficiaries are supported with capacity building interventions and financial support. Islamic principles of investment are applied in case of financial support. The beneficiaries' entrepreneurship skills are built and/or augmented through various capacity building trainings.

Table 4: Chronology of achievement: Income generating program

| <b>Particulars</b>    | <b>2005</b> | <b>2006</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>2008</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| No of Village Covered | 38          | 44          | 44          | 48          | 48           |
| No of Beneficiaries   | 2523        | 3054        | 3602        | 4246        | 4246         |
| Revolving fund        | 15558700    | 19275700    | 23737700    | 28164700    | 28164700     |

Table 5: Chronology of achievement: Income generating program (IGP+IVP)

| <b>Particulars</b>    | <b>2005</b> | <b>2006</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>2008</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| No of Village Covered | 38          | 44          | 44          | 57          | 57           |
| No of Beneficiaries   | 2523        | 3054        | 3602        | 4742        | 4742         |
| Revolving fund        | 15558700    | 19275700    | 23737700    | 36391700    | 36391700     |



- **Promotion of Gender Equity and Empowerment of Women**

Gender equity and women empowerment is one of the priority areas of MACCA. The program primarily focuses on the issues that stand as hindrances to women empowerment. The major threat to women empowerment in Bangladesh is the economic insolvency and lack of awareness about gender issues. While it helps promote the economic status of the women through various development interventions, it considers dowry as a critical factor responsible for women repression particularly in rural areas and among poor people. Marriages get separated, women abandoned, persecuted, and humiliated for dowry.



With a view to promoting the culture of cooperation and respectfulness in the family MACCA propagates for 'Marriages without Dowry'. While marriage is blessed by the Almighty, dowry is prohibited by Islam and thus in the name of dowry any kind of repression on women is strongly condemned. MACCA supports to organize marriage functions of the poor women and also provide some financial support in kind to make a way out for livelihood for the new couples. So far it organized approximately 70 marriages without dowry. MACCA follows up the couples and assists them in various occasions especially during flood and other natural calamities.

MACCA organized series of advocacy events to promote an atmosphere free of violence against women. It also plans to sit with women organizations and activists to share their concerns and to advocate subsequently mainstreaming the issue of the women in the light of Islamic interpretation for translation in policy environment.

- **Faith Based Integrated Development Model**

Since development and religion are not mutually exclusive, rather complementary to each other, MACCA plans to utilize the potential of the faith leaders. There are around 500,000 mosques and a significant number of other faith institutions in the country with around 570,000 faith leaders directly working at the faith institutions. These faith institutions have space, infrastructure, manpower, credibility, access to and influence over individuals and communities and other resources. But these huge resources are largely under-utilized and faith leaders' time and efficiency are not taken advantage of. By developing and implementing a faith institution based development model MACCA can make effective use of these community resources to contribute to achieve the millennium development goals.



## COMPLEMENTARY PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

- **Development Education Program for Faith Leaders**

Involvement of faith leaders has been proved as an effective way to achieve development goals. Therefore, the development players are now concentrating on culturally appropriate and effective behavioral approach to address barriers and change harmful behavior and practices deep rooted in beliefs and culture. With its scholarly capacity, access to faith leaders and media, MACCA is now considered as one of the major players in development sector. MACCA is receiving invitations from the NGOs, government and UN bodies to take part and complement the development efforts by removing religious misconceptions and barriers and facilitating behavior change through faith advocates such as Imams and religious leaders. By developing a comprehensive curriculum addressing development agendas, barriers and misconceptions and by training the religious leaders, MACCA can develop a ready cadre of faith ambassadors to development under a complementary partnership program for development.



The foregoing consideration prompted MACCA to undertake a project titled, **“Open and Distance Learning Approach to Strengthening Development Initiatives through Interfaith Responses in Bangladesh”**. The goal of this project was to develop the capacity

of different religious leaders to support and strengthen development initiatives undertaken by government, non-government and community based organizations by using the infrastructure and communication channels of faith institutions. Having support from the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), the project initially trained a total of 205 faith leaders (165 male, 40 female) from all four major religions of the country on the contemporary development issues with special focus on the millennium development goals (MDGs).

- **Water and Sanitation**

During 2007 to 2008 MACCA implemented a project titled, “Water and Sanitation: Shared Program with the Community in Chandirchar Village of Manikganj, Bangladesh” with financial support from Japan Water Forum.

Chandirchar is a village under Manikganj district, about 60 kilometers west of Dhaka – the capital city of Bangladesh. The project was started on 1 October 2007 and continued until 31 March 2008. Prior to commencement of the project, the people of the project area were characterized by:



- forty-eight (48 %) literacy rate, among whom 71% enrolled up to primary level;
- more than half of the people (52%) have BDT 1,000-3,000 (USD 15-45) family income per month and 15% are hardcore poor whose family income is less than a dollar a day;
- less than half (47%) use sanitary latrine, 46% use non-sanitary latrines and the remaining 7% have no access to latrine;
- the hardcore poor people do not have access to pure drinking water.

Considering the above scenario, the project was formulated with a view to improving the overall water and sanitation status of Chandirchar Village of Manikganj with community participation. However, the specific objectives were as follows:



- To conduct awareness campaign through organizing meetings, production and distribution of leaflets and posters
- To change behavior of the villagers and make them health-conscious;

The project addressed a total of (i) 4,700 people in terms of awareness; (ii) 220 people in terms of using sanitary latrine who did not have access to sanitary latrine; and (iii) 125 people in terms of having access to pure drinking water who did not have such access.

The project achieved the following outcomes:

- Forty (40) sets of sanitary latrines have been assembled and ownership transferred to the community people. Forty families are now using those latrines.
- Five (5) hand tube wells have been erected in the project area. Twenty five

families are now enjoying pure drinking water.

- Ten (10) awareness building meetings were arranged in ten different locations of the village. On an average fifty four (54) people took part in each meeting.
- An awareness-raising poster was developed and a total of five hundred (500) copies were put on show.
- One thousand (1000) copies of a leaflet were distributed in the project area.

The villagers got aware of using sanitary latrine and pure drinking water. They have become health-conscious as well. They will certainly contribute to keep the physical environment of the village free from pollution. MACCA is therefore optimistic that the project-beneficiaries will be enjoying a pollution-free and hygienic environment.

- **Pure Drinking Water Supply Project**

MACCA runs this project in partnership with the World Bank (through Social Development Foundation). Earlier MACCA had accomplished feasibility and detailed design of the **Darogram Piped Water Supply Scheme** under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between Social Development Foundation (SDF) and MACCA. The “Scheme Proposal” was finally reviewed and appraised by SDF and the World Bank.

The Objectives of the '*Darogram Piped Water Supply Scheme*' includes the following:

- To facilitate and demonstrate alternative option for service, delivery of safe rural water supply to improve access, involving user participation in planning, implementation and operation.
- To encourage public-private partnership in rural water supply delivery.
- To facilitate operational sustainability through cost recovery and demand driven options by the water users in the village including vulnerable members of the community.
- To contribute towards poverty reduction through rural employment and
- To facilitate personal hygiene practice and quality of life of the user community.

The village *Darogram* is located at about 70 km west of Dhaka city, under Saturia upazila of Manikgonj District. Having a total population of about 6000, the village is characterized by average family size of 5.12 with 26 (3.47%) vulnerable households; the occupation of the villagers is diversified including farming (37%), trade and business (37%), service holders (13%).

Initially MACCA had observed that the existing village water supply was dependant on Hand pump shallow tube well, of which about 30% HTW were arsenic-contaminated exceeding Bangladesh Standard (0.05 mg/l) and 63% of HTW contained excess iron ranging between 5-10mg/l. The villagers were found not interested to use HTW water for domestic use such as drinking, bathing, washing due to high iron content and 75% of HH were subject to use polluted pond and canal water for other domestic purpose except drinking. During feasibility 98% HH opted for piped water supply expressing to connect with single tap, and multiple taps and commercial connections. The villagers expressed their keen interest to improve their existing water supply in quantity and quality.



The Darogram Piped water Supply Project was expected to serve the community with average daily demand of 50 lcd, with a projected total water demand of about 627 m<sub>3</sub> per day. The Population Growth was estimated to be around 1.64% per year with design period of 15 years. The water supply was supposed to be made available for 24 hours from a storage tank of capacity of 50% of average demand. In the initial phases **417 Households** (HH) have been connected through pipe networks and other water users expected to be served included 43 institutions, 200 permanent shops and 37 commercial users. It was agreed that a total of 513 water connections would be provided, based on demand, which includes 345 HH with single tap, 144 HH with multiple taps and 24 shared taps.



MACCA mobilized construction phase program from its existing office at Darogram. To enhance its capacity for technical supervision, necessary technical staff members were recruited and stationed at Darogram. During Construction Phase, Contractors were engaged for drilling, and other civil and mechanical works. Besides, technical supervision and certification and quantification of works were ensured by SDF design team periodically to ensure quality testing of materials, construction works etc.

MACCA is running the operation and maintenance of the water supply system as per its agreement administered with each individual consumer. The conditions of consumer agreement prescribe the responsibilities and obligations of MACCA and the beneficiaries. To establish transparency in operation, MACCA has identified a committee of 5 members, a representative body among the HH to ensure tariff collection and monitoring water loss from taps at user level. This committee also reviews the tariff collection periodically. It is agreed that MACCA would be continuing operation and maintenance of the system for a period of 15 years. MACCA's contractual obligations include managing the personnel, discretion for procurement of materials, labor, goods and services needed for efficient operation and maintenance of the water supply system. Additionally MACCA performs the responsibility of setting tariff, billing and collection of water tariff etc. through consultative process with the community during operation phase.

#### **Major Activities performed until December 2008:**

##### ***Construction Phase:***

- Package - 1: Water Source Development;
- Package - 2: Distribution networks development;
- Package - 3: Erection of elevated service reservoir;
- Package - 4: Installation of iron removal plant

##### ***Operation Phase:***

- Supply of pure drinking water to more than 400 families (on-going)
- Tariff Collection & Water quality monitoring (on-going)

## • Skill Development and Self-employment Program for the Poor Women

MACCA and Nobonita Unnayan Sangshtha (NUS) signed an agreement in 2008 to undertake a project at Char Ajodhya (Teledangi) village of Char Bhadrashan Thana under Faridpur district with a view to improving skills of the women and providing them with the opportunity of income generation. The project designed 7 categories of training for the women.



A total of 175 women are supposed to attend the following training courses in 9 batches:

- 1) Rearing of local chicken in improved way
- 2) Bee Keeping
- 3) Beef Fattening
- 4) Block-Boutique
- 5) Handicrafts
- 6) Tailoring
- 7) Rearing of Milching Cow

According to the agreement MACCA was responsible for financial and technical aspects while NUS was responsible for project implementation aspects.

This on-going program trained 55 women until end of 2008.

## • Leaders of Influence (LOI) Program

MACCA runs the Leaders of Influence (LOI) program in partnership with The Asia Foundation. The program is supported by USAID. Through this program USAID/Bangladesh seeks to support and expand USAID'S current program by engaging and exposing leaders of influence such as Lawyers, Religious leaders, Mosque Committee Members, Youth leaders etc. to modern practices of development and democracy with the overall objective of promoting values of tolerance, diversity, social harmony and understanding in Bangladesh society. As an implementing partner of The Asia Foundation, MACCA is actively contributing towards achieving the goal of the program.

The program enhances the capacity of the Mosque Committee Members (MCM) so they can contribute to national development efforts and thereby preserve and promote values of

democracy, tolerance, diversity, social harmony and understanding in the society.

Initially (before 2008), MACCA accomplished the following activities:

- a) Finalized the MCM's selection criteria.
- b) LOI Orientation program has oriented to 203 (Two hundred and three) MCM in four batches at Momenshahi-Gazipur zone, Dhaka-Manikgonj zone, Rajshahi-Natore-Bogra zone and Faridpur-Rajbari zone.
- c) MACCA has organized two-day orientation program as per Foundation's prescribed design.

In 2008, a total of 205 mosque committee members have been trained and 210 people took part in interfaith orientation.

MACCA claims the successes of (i) utilizing its own network through highly motivated Area Coordinators working in the field; (ii) obtaining active cooperation from Council for Interfaith Harmony Bangladesh an associate partner of MACCA working with major faith groups in Bangladesh; and (iii) the participants were found to be really happy with the program.



### • Services to BRAC Wash Program

As sequel to the consultancy services provided to BRAC in 2007 in developing sermon guidelines for the Muslim religious leaders, in 2008 MACCA organized ToT program for the Imams under the BRAC WASH Program. The provision of safe water and good sanitation facilities play a vital role in promoting health and improving hygiene status at the community level, thus increasing the productivity and well-being of the nation. Inadequate provision of safe drinking water and sanitation are directly related to the spread of communicable diseases, increased health risk and poor health and environmental pollution. Having recognized the importance of safe water and good sanitation facilities on the wellbeing of the people particularly the poor, BRAC initiated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) program to contribute to achieving environmental sanitation related MDG. The program aims to ensure access to sanitation services to 17.6



million people, hygiene education to 37.5 million people and safe water services to 8.5 million people to check incidence of morbidity and mortality in the rural areas.

Access to information concerning health and hygiene may save thousands of life in rural areas. Due to easily preventable communicable-diseases every year thousands of people are exposed to various level of threats to life and particularly the children and the women suffer most. Thus a proper channel of communication to spread basic information on water, sanitation and hygiene is crucial. Bangladesh is predominantly a Muslim country and most of them are practicing; they attend every Friday the Juma prayer where the Imam speaks on various social issues apart from religious ones in the sermon (*Khutba*). In some areas particularly in prevention, care and support of HIV and AIDS the importance of *Khutba* discussion already proved very effective. Moreover, the involvement of faith leaders particularly the Imams may create a huge momentum in the community for better hygiene and sanitation condition. In such perspective Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA) developed a Sermon guide (*Khutba* Guide) for BRAC that contains both religious references and scientific information.

However, while developing a guide is important, the proper use of the guide by the actors is more important. To reach the community with messages requires right communication skill. Thus, organizing some TOT for developing some master trainers who would eventually train the Imams at the community level is necessary.

Therefore, MACCA developed a training manual, a TOT plan and provided TOT to 200 leading *Imams/Khatibs*, who will in turn train about 19,000 *Imams/khatibs* in 40 WASH districts across the country.

## HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS

- **Children Welfare Program (CWP)**

Masjid Council strongly believes that every human life matters and no human life is redundant on earth. From such an understanding Masjid Council embarked on the initiative to provide shelter, education, health care service and other necessary opportunities to the abandoned children to make them grow as good human beings.



Children Welfare Program (CWP) is one of major initiatives of Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA). The program started in 2000 with 4 abandoned babies with the single initiative of a woman. The aftermath in 2000 on September Masjid Council for community Advancement (MACCA) took formal initiative and kept these 4 babies in rented house.

While the prime motivation behind undertaking the initiative was to seek pleasure of Allah by providing services to humanity, the program runs with two fundamental objectives: (i) saving human lives, and (ii) helping the abandoned children to become worthy citizens.

Abandoned children ranging from new-born to 15 years of old are recruited through various channels comprising individual and organizational contact, media report and advertisement in electronic media from across the country irrespective of their color, cast and creed - be they are of normal appearance, physically challenged or mentally retarded.

The children would be provided support until they become established and self-reliant. However, the children shall have the right to take decision independently to choose his/her continuity with the program upon reaching legal adulthood. But s/he has to abide by all legal procedures once taking such decision.

The CWP children are provided with food, education, shelter, medical treatment, recreation support and other facilities for their proper grooming. The substitute mothers try to take proper emotional care of the children. Nutrition intake in food and quality in education are properly monitored by the full time staff. A graduate doctor visits the children periodically living in Uttara to check their physical conditions but as and when required they are taken to hospital and clinics. The CWP has access to ambulance services.



The children would be provided necessary counseling and access to information to reach informed decision as to choosing education stream and career.

Located in Uttara (for girls) and Tongi (for boys) the project currently looks after 41 children. The number of male and female children is respectively 26 and 15. Three-fourths of them attend formal educational institutions.

Table 6: MACCA Children Welfare: boarder composition and staffing

| Personnel          | Number | Remarks    |
|--------------------|--------|------------|
| Number of Children | 46     |            |
| Boys               | 21     | 4 disabled |
| Girls              | 25     | 5 disabled |
| Mothers            | 07     |            |
| Program Officer    | 01     |            |
| Supervisor         | 02     |            |
| House Tutor        | 03     |            |
| Security           | 02     |            |
| Cook               | 01     |            |
| Program Director   | 01     |            |

- **Emergency Responses**

During late 2007 the country experienced a devastating flood and a cyclone named 'Sidr'. Alhamdulillah, MACCA took part in the relief and rehabilitation operations after both of the natural calamities.

The flood caused inundation to more than two-thirds of the total area of the country. A total of 10 million people were affected by the flood. While the cyclone Sidr caused death of about 10,000 people and rendered millions of people homeless. The people of the cyclone-hit areas had to face acute problem in managing safe drinking water, warm-cloths as well as livelihood.

Since MACCA is dedicated to working with individuals, challenged communities and other development and humanitarian partners to overcome people's vulnerability and sufferings irrespective of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender, MACCA felt that it is its sacred duty to step forward in helping the flood and cyclone-affected people of the country. Accordingly, with support from its well-wishers (individual and corporate body from home and abroad), MACCA organized relief and rehabilitation program as depicted in table 7 below:

Table 7: Emergency responses in 2007-08

| <b>Emergency</b>           | <b>MACCA's Response</b>              |   |   |  |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Flood 2007</b>          | In terms of people/family reached In | terms of financial involvement  | In terms of geographical coverage   | Remarks  |
|                            | 6000 families                        | BDT 1.5 million (in the form of cash and kind support)  | Six districts: Faridpur, Rajbari, Manikganj, Rangpur, Jamalpur and Mymensingh   | Honorable Ex- Advisor Ms. Gitiara Safia Chowdhury; concerned district-level government officials; and joint forces representatives were present in the relief and rehabilitation operations. |
| <b>Cyclone 'SIDR' 2007</b> | 10,000 families                      | BDT 3.2 million<br>1. in cash and kind (clothes), food and water purifying tablets, oral saline; Khulna, Patuakhali, Barguna, Barishal, Pirojpur,<br>2. Reconstruction of houses (5), mosques 35 and madrasahs 29 | Eleven districts: Jhalukathi, Bagerhaat, Shariatpur, Satkhira, Gopalganj, Bhola | Concerned district-level government officials; and joint forces representatives were present in the relief and rehabilitation operations.  |

Most of the above-mentioned activities had been lasted from 2007 to 2008.

## CAMPAIGNING PROGRAMS

- **Campaign to Support Election Commission in Preparing Photo-Based Electoral Roll**

MACCA, upon signing an MOU with the Election Commission, organized effective campaigning in preparing photo-based electoral roll. In collaboration with local administration MACCA motivated approximately five million people in twenty districts through holding seminar and conferences; developing and distributing posters, booklets and leaflets and by involving Imams in preaching appropriate messages from religious perspectives.

During late 2007, when the whole nation was mobilized to usher in a new chapter of democracy through holding a neutral, impartial and credible national election with an expectation to give the people an opportunity to choose dedicated and visionary leadership. The Election Commission had taken a mammoth task of preparing voters' list afresh and for the first time that with photographs. While the photo based voters list might be a good safety valve for an apparently flawless election, it at the same time entails various challenges in terms of making people interested in visiting the voter list registration centers for photographs, and the responsibility to defuse the confusions about the Islamic legality of photography for the purpose of voters list. Thus, in the given situation making the initiatives of the Election Commission a success requires a huge voluntary support of various individuals and institutions.

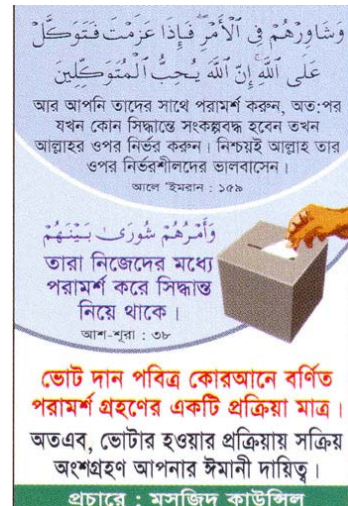
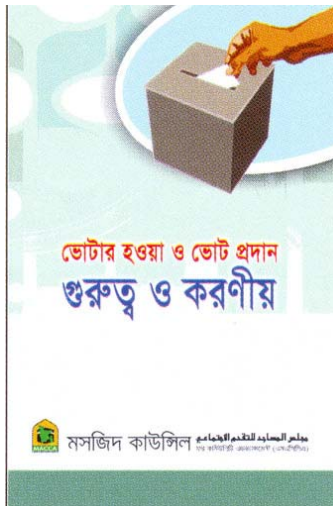


Based on the above understanding and with huge working experience with Imams and understanding about the role and influence of Imams in social mobilization Masjid Council strongly realized that it could support the Election Commission to overcome the challenges particularly the confusion regarding photograph.

In so doing Masjid Council signed an MOU with the Election Commission with the proposal of a series of advocacy and awareness building initiatives in 20 (twenty) districts of Bangladesh, with the following major responsibilities:

A. Hold national-level Seminar:

- involving all acceptable and nationally known Islamic scholars
- delivering a consensus message as to taking photographs for the purpose of election
- Motivating people on importance of each adult individual to be included in the voter list.



#### B. Hold district-level Imam Conferences:

- with participation of approximately 200 imams representing all Upazillas under each of the selected district
- sharing national consensus and strategies to mobilize people to realize the goal

#### C. Develop awareness-raising materials:

- handbook containing messages and positions of Islam on the need to become voters and defuse confusions about taking photo for voters list
- Leaflets and posters for circulation in the selected districts, subject to the availability of funds.

During 2007-2008, MACCA inspired and motivated about five million people through holding national and district-level seminar and conferences (ii) distribution of 40,000 posters, 10,000 booklets and 10,000 leaflets containing messages in favor of photo-based voter ID and responsibility of each adult Muslim to be voter from religious perspective; (iii) Imams (Muslim religious leaders), mosques, and in collaboration with local administrative functionaries.

## BUILDING ALLIANCES

### • Promotion of Interfaith Cooperation

MACCA recognizes the right to have different faiths. It pays great value to interfaith harmony and cooperation and rejects any form of unjust treatment on the basis of religion. Committed to the noble principles of Islam, it promotes the culture of cooperation and tolerance.

MACCA had the opportunity to act as the national secretariat of Council for Interfaith Harmony, Bangladesh (CIH, BD). On behalf of CIH,BD MACCA facilitated the organization of an unprecedented national conference in February 2006 that was graced by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. About 1500 religious followers and leaders of major faiths such as Islam, Hinduism, Christianity, Buddhism, in Bangladesh attended the conference. Representatives of different diplomatic missions, MPs, Ministers, high officials joined the conference and applauded the initiative. Veteran faith leaders graced the conference and stressed the need of such moves for greater cooperation for development and peace in the country. It opened a new arena for organizations like MACCA.



In May 2007 another national-level round table discussion on 'Role of religion in nation building' was arranged. MACCA played a significant role in arranging the discussion. The program was attended by the eminent faith leaders of the country. Besides, MACCA extended all out support to CIH,BD to organize two national-level seminars on 'Role of Faith Leaders in Prevention of HIV and AIDS' in August and September 2007- one in Dhaka and the other one in Chittagong.

In 2008, CIHBD successfully (i) organized a national-level interfaith dialogue on HIV prevention in Rajshahi; (ii) organized four (4) episodes of TV talk show on ntv; (iii) formed

divisional committees of Rajshahi and Khulna division; and (iv) organized a seminar on “Role of religion in establishing social integrity and preventing terrorism” at the Dhaka Press Club.

MACCA attaches great value to cooperation among people of different faiths because it minimizes the gaps, strengthens bonds, consolidates unity, and provides greater scope for contribution for faith leaders.

## GOVERNANCE

### Executive Committee

A five member executive committee is the highest body in MACCA governance structure. The body comprises of distinguished professionals and social workers. The body takes all major decisions and on behalf of the executive committee the chairman acts as the chief executive officer of the organization. The chairman is accountable to the executive committee. The committee serves for a term of three years.

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Professional background</b>   | <b>Designation</b> |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Moulana Abul Kalam Azad  | Islamic Thinker  | Chairman           |
| Eng. S A K M Shafique    | Chief Engr. (Retd.) Dept. of Public Health Engineering, Government of Bangladesh | Member-Secretary   |
| D M. Delwar Hossain      | Businessman  | Treasurer          |
| Eng. Fazlul Karim        | Chief Engr. (Retd.) Dept. of Roads and Highways, Government of Bangladesh        | Member             |
| Syeda Sultana Razia, PhD | Associate Professor, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET)    | Member             |

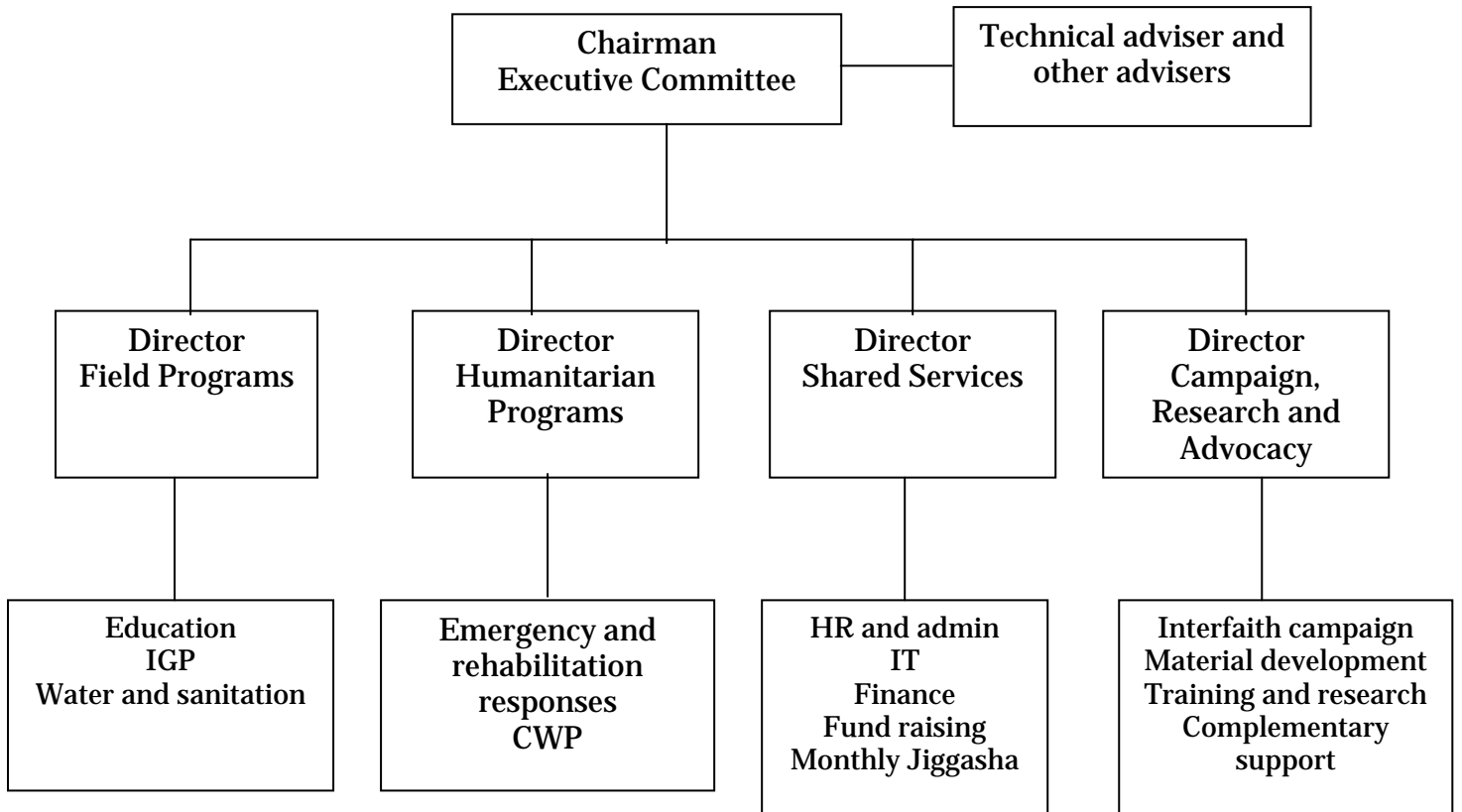
### Senior Management Team (SMT)

The SMT is responsible for overall implementation of programs and plans decided in the executive committee. The chairman heads the SMT, while directors of different program divisions, technical advisors and other senior staffs (on invitation) attend the SMT meetings. SMT undertakes quarterly and monthly plans and reviews implementation of various projects and programs. It acts as the technical expert for the executive committee.

### Internal Audit Committee

A three-member internal audit committee scrutinizes income and expenditure of the organization. A member from the executive committee heads the audit committee. The other members are director field program and director, shared services. The audit committee also reviews the findings raised in annual financial report by professional auditors and recommends suggestions to establish good governance in financial system of the organization.

# MACCA ORGANOGRAM



# Audit Report 2008

**MARHK & CO.**  
Chartered Accountants

**MASJID COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT (MACCA)**  
**Income & Expenditure Account**  
For the period ended 31 December 2008

| Particulars                         | Notes | Amount in Taka<br>31/12/2008 |
|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                       |       |                              |
| Donation                            | 4     | 8,771,015.80                 |
| Cultural Fund                       |       | 50,000.00                    |
| Credit Card                         |       | 10,000.00                    |
| CIH                                 |       | 250,000.00                   |
| COL                                 |       | 850,297.00                   |
| CWP                                 |       | 3,631,895.00                 |
| Education Program                   |       | 376,000.00                   |
| BRAC Wash Program                   |       | 596,362.00                   |
| Char Vadrashon Project              |       | 150,480.00                   |
| Salary Deduction                    |       | 3,000.00                     |
| IVP                                 |       | 1,200,000.00                 |
| IGP                                 |       | 48,000.00                    |
| LOI                                 |       | 2,126,863.00                 |
| Daragram Program (SDF)              |       | 335,095.00                   |
| Profit                              |       | 61,306.26                    |
| HIFZ Program (Exim Bank Foundation) |       | 1,277,000.00                 |
| <b>Total Income</b>                 |       | <b><u>19,737,314.06</u></b>  |
| <b>EXPENDITURE:</b>                 |       |                              |
| Administration Expenses             | 5     | 7,429,892.82                 |
| Office Expenses                     | 6     | 1,159,996.01                 |
| Audit Fees                          |       | 23,000.00                    |
| Bank Charge                         |       | 536.00                       |
| Bank Service Charge (T.T.)          |       | 2,971.00                     |
| CIH, BD                             |       | 310,635.00                   |
| COL                                 |       | 882,673.00                   |
| Excise Duties                       |       | 1,900.00                     |
| LOI                                 |       | 2,750,863.00                 |
| National Election Program           |       | 16,324.00                    |
| Japan Water Supply Program          |       | 3,500.00                     |
| HIFZ Program                        |       | 556,508.00                   |
| Wash Program                        |       | 434,640.00                   |
| IVP                                 |       | 943,950.00                   |
| IGP                                 |       | 48,000.00                    |
| Income Tax                          |       | 21,120.00                    |
| Security Deposit                    |       | 600,000.00                   |
| Qurbani Program                     |       | 399,500.00                   |
| Relief Program                      |       | 129,978.00                   |
| T.T Manikganj                       |       | 1,646,699.00                 |
| Tax on Profit                       |       | 5,602.49                     |
| *Girls                              | 7     | 1,197,614.08                 |
| *Boys                               | 8     | 1,259,051.00                 |
| Depreciation on Fixed Assets        | 3     | 468,308.00                   |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>            |       | <b><u>20,293,261.40</u></b>  |
| Excess of Expenditure over Income   |       | <u>(555,947.34)</u>          |
|                                     |       | <b><u>19,737,314.06</u></b>  |

Director, Finance

Chairman

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated: Dhaka, 09 June 2009



*(Signature)*  
**MARHK & CO.**  
Chartered Accountants

MASJID COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT (MACCA)  
Balance Sheet  
As at 31 December 2008

| Particulars                                | Notes | Amount in Taka<br>31/12/2008 |
|--|-------|------------------------------|
| <b>PROPERTY &amp; ASSETS</b>               |       |                              |
| <b>Non-current Assets</b>                  |       |                              |
| Fixed Assets Less Accumulated Depreciation | 3     | 2,748,923.32                 |
| <b>Investment</b>                          |       |                              |
| Loan                                       | 10    | 182,683.00                   |
| Share                                      |       | 30,000.00 *                  |
| Bond                                       | 9     | 224,281.30                   |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                      |       |                              |
| Loan & Advance                             |       | 926,425.00 *                 |
| Stock of Cow                               |       | 62,016.00 *                  |
| Cash in Hand                               |       | 64,822.68                    |
| Cash at Bank                               |       | 5,912,044.59                 |
|  |       | <u>10,151,195.89</u>         |
| <b>FUND &amp; LIABILITIES</b>              |       |                              |
| Capital Fund                               |       | 9,970,147.23 *               |
| Excess of Expenditure over Income          |       | (555,947.34)                 |
|  |       | <u>9,414,199.89</u>          |
| Loan from IBBL                             | 11    | 102,262.00                   |
| Loan                                       |       | 65,000.00                    |
| Reserve Fund                               |       | 569,734.00 *                 |
|  |       | <u>10,151,195.89</u>         |

Director, Finance

Chairman

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated: Dhaka, 09 June 2009

  
MARHK & CO.  
Chartered Accountants



22/6/09

MARHK & CO.  
Chartered Accountants

**Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA)**  
**Bangladesh AIDS Program (BAP)**

**Balance Sheet**  
As at 31 December 2008

Amount in Taka

| Particulars                    | Notes | 31/12/2008       |
|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|
| <b>PROPERTY &amp; ASSETS</b>   |       |                  |
| <b>Current Assets</b>          |       |                  |
| <b>Cash &amp; Bank Balance</b> |       |                  |
| Cash in Hand                   |       | 3,925.00         |
| Cash at Bank                   |       | 86,308.00        |
|                                |       | <b>90,233.00</b> |
| <b>FUND &amp; LIABILITIES</b>  |       |                  |
| Accumulated Surplus            | 3     | 90,233.00        |
|                                |       | <b>90,233.00</b> |

Director, Finance

Chairman

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated: Dhaka, 09 June 2009

  
MARHK & CO.  
Chartered Accountants



## **CONTACT DETAILS**

### **Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA)**

House: 06 (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> floor), Road: 33, Sector: 07, Uttara, Dhaka

Phone: 88-02-8954305, Fax: 88-02-8922008

Email: [macca@dhaka.net](mailto:macca@dhaka.net), Web: [www.masjidcouncilbd.org](http://www.masjidcouncilbd.org)