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Since 1996 our diocese has provided
compassionate care for the people of war-torn
Yemen through the work of
Ras Morbat in the compound of
Christ Church Aden.

Please—join us to help those in need of
specialist healthcare in one of the poorest
countries in the world

*The Right Reverend Sean Semple
Bishop of the Anglican Diocese
of Cyprus and the Gulf*



The Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, established in 1976, covers Cyprus, Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula and is part of the Province of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East



عيادة رأس مرباط للعيون
Ras Morbat Eye Clinic

2024



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Despite a fragile truce in a long-running civil war, the people of Yemen are in the midst of a humanitarian catastrophe. Over half the population—16 million out of 29 million—suffer from acute hunger; over 2 million children under the age of 5 will experience acute malnutrition this year alone. More than 160,000 have been killed, according to ACLED, many in direct attacks on civilians. Thousands have died of preventable diseases such as cholera; many thousands more, especially children, have sustained life-changing injuries.

The Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf has a long-standing presence in Yemen, particularly the Ras Morbat Clinic in Aden—a remarkable example of Christian witness and service: rooted in the community, indifferent to creed, and a moving testament to courage in adversity.

*2024 marks ten years since
the outbreak
of Yemen's complex
civil war,
fuelled by historic
political, tribal, religious and
regional rivalries*

Ras Morbat Clinic was established in 1996 within the compound of Christ Church (consecrated in 1864), as a partnership between the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf and the Ministry of Health of the government of

Yemen to provide primary health care for mothers and babies. Over the years, the Diocese expanded its work to include eye care, and Ras Morbat is now a specialist eye clinic. The clinic is entirely staffed by Yemenis, and most—often all—of the doctors are women.

The clinic treats some 450 patients a month for more serious conditions, as well as providing a range of care from general vision exams and surgery for cataracts. Costs are kept as low as possible: cataract surgery is \$75, covering consumables and cornea implants. For those who cannot pay, financial aid is found.



3





2024

Over 4 million Yemenis have been displaced by conflict—80 percent of them women and children. Many patients are IDPs (internally displaced people) from far-away villages, who do not have the documentation required to access treatment in government clinics in the area.

A tentative truce between warring factions has enabled Ras Morbat staff to resume school visits, and space has also been found in the clinic itself for a Ministry of Health child vaccination programme. However, mobile clinics to patients further afield have not resumed. Instead, a longstanding system of weekly visits to Ras Morbat for IDPs and Somali refugees in need of treatment continues, bringing patients from a camp 200km from Aden.

displaced by and children.

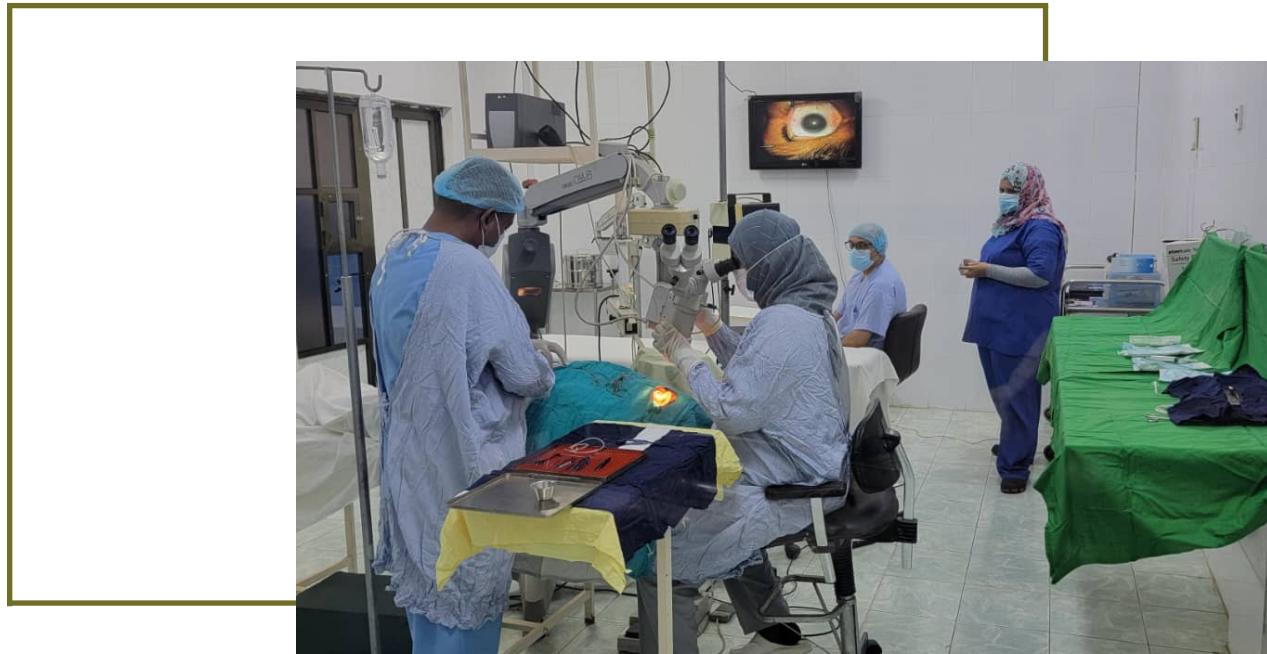
The financial support of Christians around the world enables staff to serve their fellow Muslims, and the fact the clinic is within the church compound gives them a sense of God's blessing on their work

Clinic staff are extremely dedicated to their work, and proud of their heritage of service. The financial support of Christians around the world that enables them to serve their fellow Muslims, and the fact the clinic is within the church compound gives them a sense of God's blessing on their work.

The local community, too, holds the clinic in exceptionally high regard: in the absence of civil authority in Aden at the height of the war, gangs roamed the streets—some interested only in looting; others, more radicalised, vandalised Aden's three Roman Catholic churches. It was the people living near Christ Church who protected the clinic and church from repeated efforts to attack the compound.



4





2024

Although Aden is now mostly calm, basic infrastructure remains under serious strain: water supply is unreliable and electricity is available only at certain times of day for limited hours. The clinic is fortunate to have a backup generator in case power is lost, particularly during surgery. However shipping remains disrupted affecting deliveries of pharmaceuticals and surgical equipment, requiring visits to neighbouring countries to secure supplies.

Despite the formidable security challenges, Ras Morbat Clinic has continued to function. However, financial challenges always loom large: annual staff costs of \$75k and operating expenses of \$35k are only partially covered by designated contributions of \$50k and local income of \$10k. Please support us in this vital work, by helping us meet our annual fundraising target of \$50k.

*To find out more about
Ras Morbat Clinic, please visit*

rasmorbatclinic.org

To donate, please visit

rasmorbatclinic.org/donate/



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