

Ras Morbat Eye Clinic
Report to Synod 2025
Mansour Yousuf, Clinic Director

I am writing to share insights about our vital work at Ras Morbat Eye Clinic and the ongoing challenges faced by the people of Aden, Yemen. As the Public Relations Manager and Supervisor for both the Church and the clinic since September 1995, I have had the honour of coordinating between government facilities, the Church, and the clinic. The Ras Morbat Eye Clinic, established as a charitable initiative by the Church, is dedicated to providing essential healthcare services to the community. The church also serves as a place of worship for Christians.

Challenges Facing Aden

The people of Aden face numerous difficulties that impact their daily lives, including:

Electricity: Power outages are severe, with a current cycle of 9 hours off and only 2 hours on, due to fuel shortages at the power station. These interruptions have persisted since the war in March 2015 and continue until today.

Fuel Availability: Diesel and petrol are available but prohibitively expensive. To run the clinic and operating room generator from 8 am to 2 pm, 200 liters of fuel are required per week. After work hours, we rely on solar energy and electric chargers to reduce fuel consumption and pressure on the generator.

Water Supply: Potable water is available for only 12 hours, after which it stops for 72 hours before resuming, making water storage essential for survival.

Food Essentials: Access to staple items such as rice, wheat, and oil remains difficult due to limited local production and high import costs, though agriculture and fish remain available.

Economic Stability: The prices of essential commodities remain highly volatile, creating immense hardship for families.

Despite some improvements, thanks to support from alliances with Saudi Arabia and the UAE, sustaining essential resources and ensuring their accessibility remain critical challenges for the community.

Interfaith Cooperation and Support

Our clinic thrives through the unwavering support of Christians and Church officials from the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf. Their dedication has been pivotal to the clinic's success.

We are deeply grateful for the collaboration of renowned doctors, including Dr. John Sandford Smith (UK), Dr. Jan Tansfy (Czech), Dr. Adel Gerges (Egypt), and Dr. Ji Ho (Korea). Since 2001, they have contributed immensely by training Yemeni doctors and nurses, conducting specialized surgeries, and offering invaluable expertise.

Our team of doctors and staff at Ras Marbat Eye Clinic serves between 10 to 45 patients daily, providing essential eye care and specialized treatments. The clinic stands as a beacon of interfaith

cooperation, fostering respect and harmony among diverse religious communities.

A Message to the World

It is crucial for the world to understand that Yemen is not defined by terrorism. Yemenis are peace-loving, resilient people who seek stability, progress, and prosperity for their nation.

The Houthi militia's attack on Aden on March 25, 2015, caused widespread devastation, crippling both public and private sectors and inflicting immense suffering on innocent civilians. Critical infrastructure was destroyed, livelihoods were shattered, and the socio-economic fabric of the city was severely damaged.

Furthermore, the ongoing crisis in the Red Sea poses a grave threat to regional stability and global trade. Strategic waterways have become battlegrounds, jeopardizing maritime security and disrupting vital shipping routes that connect the world. The ripple effects of this instability extend far beyond Yemen's borders, threatening global commerce and energy supplies.

Thanks to God's blessings and the courageous efforts of the Arab coalition countries and the resilient people of Aden, the attack was repelled. Since July 18, 2015, the situation has gradually improved. However, security concerns and fluctuating prices of essential goods and fuel remain significant challenges.

The resilience and determination of Aden's people continue to serve as a beacon of hope for a brighter future. With ongoing cooperation and international support, we believe Aden will rise above these hardships and thrive once again.

Thank you for your attention, compassion, and concern for Aden and Yemen.

Sincerely,
Mansour "Shahbib Kanesa" – the Church One
Public Relations Manager
Ras Marbat Eye Clinic
Chris Church, Aden