

## Detailed Project Report

**Date:** 22.09.2020  
**Reporting Period:** March - August 2020  
**Report to:** Kardan University

This report presents information about Charmaghz Cultural and Services organization and briefly explains the activities of this organization in 2019 and 2020. Besides, it put detailed attention about the memorandum of understanding, signed between Charmaghz and Kardan.

Charmaghz is a Kabul based Non-Profit organization, aimed to promote critical thinking among Afghan children through different approaches including establishing mobile libraries and mobile educational cinema. This organization was established on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Currently Charmaghz is operating four mobile libraries and one mobile educational cinema across Kabul city.

The first mobile library was launched on 14<sup>th</sup> February of 2018, the Blue Bus of Charmaghz was the foremost mobile library of the organization that hit the streets of Kabul and with itself introduced a new wave of educational activism. In addition, the Blue bus of Charmaghz was a perfect success, that enabled the organization to be focused for more generosity and receive further funding and help us to start our new projects. This project (The Blue Mobile Library) has been sponsored by AIB since past two years. Later, Charmaghz launched a mobile educational cinema on Feb, 2019 that has been sponsored by Netlinks Ltd now for a second year in a row. In 2020, Charmaghz established two other mobile libraries that are sponsored by Afghan private sectors such as Greenwich Consulting and another private company.



**Green mobile library sponsored by Kardan:** The Green Mobile library was initially designed and sponsored for one year since March 2019 by Australian Embassy. However, based on Charmaghz new fundraising policy, Charmaghz is committed to have sponsorship for its libraries only from Afghan and international private sectors.



Hence, in spring 2020, Charmaghz approached Kardan University for sponsoring this library for the year of 2020. Fortunately, a memorandum of understanding was signed between Kardan and Charmaghz, under which, Kardan is committed to sponsor the Green Mobile Library for a duration of one year starting from March 2019. Under the MoU signed, Kardan is supposed to transfer a total amount of Seventeen thousand and Four hundred USD (17,400) to Charmaghz bank account and Charmaghz will operate the mobile library till end of March 2021.

This library sponsored by Kardan, aims providing library services to the children of Kabul. The books in the library are varied in context, consisting: story books, general education, science, technology and astronomy books. Also, the library is equipped with E-Tablets with installed applications and programs as online educational materials such as; e-book and learning games. Additionally, the library is equipped with Chess game to improve their critical thinking and strategic planning skills and a sound system for their entertainment. The Green bus, also hosted guests with the enthusiasm to spend time with the children, talking to them about their experiences, reading and playing games with them such as Rashid Khan the Afghan Cricket Champion.

Annex (1) denotes the number of visitors in 2020.

*Annex"1"*

<b>Visitors of Charmaghz Green Mobile Library on 2020</b>			
<b>Months of the year</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
March	1269	1516	2785
July	439	198	637
August	240	121	361
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,948</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>3,783</b>

*Note: The bus has provided services to children till 20<sup>th</sup> March, and was stopped till end of June due to the spread of Corona vires and resumed back on earlier July with taking all the precautions against further spread of the Corona Virus.*



*Charmaghz librarian reading story book to the lower age children who are not able to read*

## Achievements during Quarantine:

Unfortunately, the start of 2020 was a year with the global health and environmental challenge due to COVID 19 and this has placed an absolute stop to almost everything. Where Charmaghz was not an exception and stopped the mobile libraries on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. While using the opportunity and the leave gap that accrued in our project initiation this period of time was also used to be effective in providing services to children in Kabul. This time was managed through our online platform that provided the following activities:



Yalda Jan (The 8 years child) reading story to her fellows through Charmaghz Facebook Page

- Online Storytelling:** Charmaghz's director, 8-years old child and a 17 years old teenager have joined hands to read stories to children on a weekly basis to help them with listening skills, vocabulary and improve their phonological awareness and ease the pressuring impacts of the quarantine. Videos are watched, on average, 5000 times each. In total Charmaghz has posted 16 different videos that have had over 120K views and engagements.
- Online panel discussions:** We have tried to take advantage of the little opportunities that lockdown presents. In doing so, we organized an online live discussion to explore the mental and psychological effects of the lockdown on children (with 7000 views).
- Online library:** through our Facebook page, we share the PDF copies of children books from various sources and encourage parents to read them to their children as a remedy to the buses being inaccessible to them.
- Awareness Campaign about Coronavirus:** We had an awareness campaign through our Facebook page on mental health of children during COVID 19.



Sample of FB post during quarantine by Charmaghz

In regard to the payments, Kardan is committed to transfer the approved budget in four installments, and each installment will be settled in the beginning of each quarter in Charmaghz bank account, and Charmaghz will report Kardan on semi-annual basis. However, due to the spread of Corona virus and lockdown Kardan was not able to transfer the first installment on early March as promised and stated in the MoU, but it was transferred to Charmaghz bank account in late July 2020. The received installment has the bellow details with the contrast on total expenditure and due balance to be received from Kardan in organization's bank account: [Attached in the mail as annex, expenditure details, \(Excel Sheet\).](#)



*Children improving their art skills inside the library sponsored by Kardan*

In summary, Charmaghz conveys its sincere gratitude, that the Green bus of Charmaghz has been very impactful in the lives of the children that had the opportunity of visiting the bus. Almost all of the children that visited the mobile library for once, befriended the Bus, along with its books and different board games etc. We have had the honor of a lot of children that voluntarily contributed the library by donating their own story books so that other children could read them as well.