

Smile Focus March 2011

We have just completed a seven day camp in Taiz and Yarim, our third camp this year. 25 people were provided with life changing surgery in this latest camp, making the total number of people helped in 2011 369. This story of one of our more recent patients highlights the challenges that many of our patients face.

20 year old Aklaq and her husband attended our free clinic at Yarim hospital in February. When we informed them that we would be willing to do the secondary correction of her cleft nasal deformity the next day, the husband informed us that they were too poor to afford even a cheap hotel in Yarim. Aklaq told us that she had sold her gold chain just to travel the seven hour distance to our camp from her own town.

One of our Operation Theatre team members, anesthetist Fuad Al Jalal immediately offered to put them up in his house and cared for the couple during Aklaq's treatment. The staff of the hospital went the extra mile and gave them food, medicines and moral support. The surgery was a success and the patient will continue to attend our charity camps for follow up.



Above: Yemeni medical staff at Yarim reach out to cleft patients across Yemen

Below: Before and After of 6 month old baby Qabasi at Yarim, 2010

