

Khidmat-e-Khalq:
Service to Mankind

January 2022



Majlis Khuddamul
Ahmadiyya USA

MKA USA Taleem Department

Discussion

How many people in the U.S. are food insecure?

- A. Almost 5 million
- B. Almost 10 million
- C. Almost 40 million
- D. Almost 100 million



Discussion

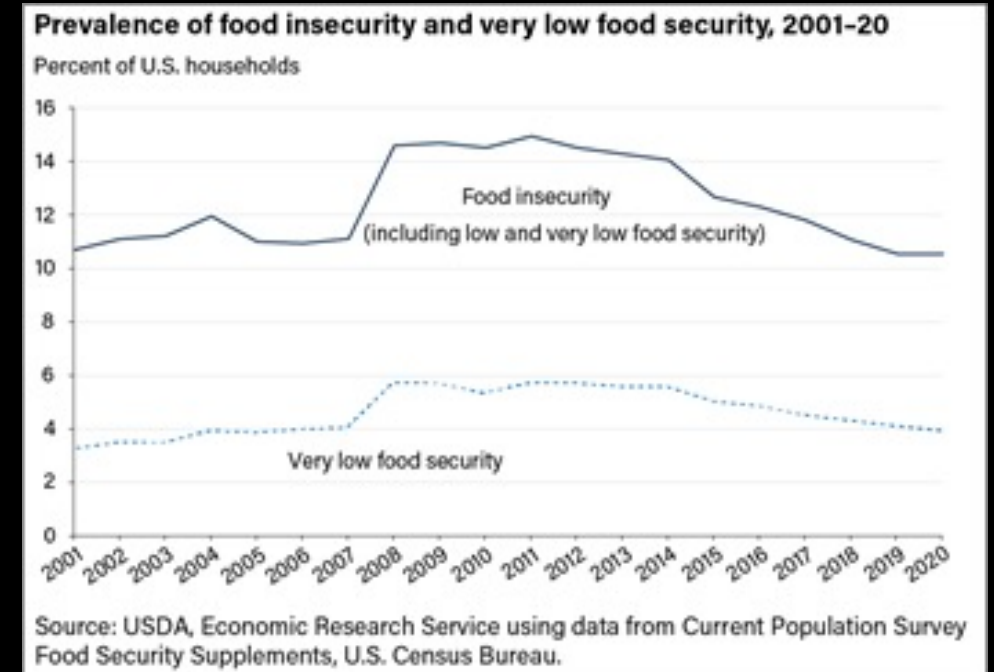
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Food Insecurity in the United States

- Food insecurity: lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life
- According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, more than 38 million people, including 12 million children, in the U.S. are food insecure.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased food insecurity among families with children and communities of color, who already faced hunger at much higher rates before the pandemic.
- In 2020, 10.5 percent of U.S. households were food insecure at least some time during the year.
- Hunger in African American, Latino, and Native American communities is higher because of systemic racial injustice.



<https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/ag-and-food-statistics-charting-the-essentials/food-security-and-nutrition-assistance/>



Discussion

- What causes food insecurity?
- What are ways to improve the food insecurity situation in the U.S.?



Discussion

- What causes food insecurity?
 - Poverty, unemployment or low income
 - Lack of affordable housing
 - Chronic health conditions or lack of access to healthcare
 - Systemic racism and racial discrimination
- What are ways to improve the food insecurity situation in the U.S.?
 - Volunteer and serve humanity through *Khidmat-e-Khalq!*



Importance of *Khidmat-e-Khalq*

كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ
تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ
الْمُنْكَرِ وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ ۚ وَلَوْ آمَنَ أَهْلُ
الْكِتَابِ لَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَّهُمْ ۚ مِنْهُمْ
الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَكْثَرُهُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴿٣١١﴾

[3:111] You are the best people raised for the good of mankind; you enjoin what is good and forbid evil and believe in Allah. And if the People of the Book had believed, it would have surely been better for them. Some of them are believers, but most of them are disobedient.

To be among the best people who work towards the good of mankind in the view of Allah the Almighty, we as Khuddam must be ready to dedicate our time and efforts to serve humanity. Some examples are:

1. Packing sandwiches and distributing it to the homeless
2. Donating blood to save lives
3. Remove difficulties of the sick, elderly, refugees and disabled
4. Offering services during natural/man-made disasters or calamities



Importance of *Khidmat-e-Khalq*

- “There are countless traditions and sayings of the Holy Prophet (saw) that illustrate how he spent his entire life serving mankind and striving to inculcate the same spirit of sympathy for others within his followers.” - *Address of Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba) at Humanity First 2021 Conference*
- The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said, “One who is not grateful to mankind is not grateful to Allah.” - *Tirmidhī*
- It is reported that the Holy Prophet (saw) once said: ‘Find me amongst the weak and poor. Surely, you are provided for and helped only due to your support of the weak and deprived.’ - *Tirmidhī*
 - Here the Holy Prophet (saw) proclaims that he stands shoulder to shoulder with those who are weak and defenseless and that if a person desires to attain his love and the love of Allah he should seek to help those who are helpless and who are the victims of misfortune.
- It is narrated that the Holy Prophet (saw) once said, “The most beloved people to Allah are those who are most beneficial to the people.” - *Al-Mu‘jam Al-Awsat*
- We must fulfill the rights of our fellow human beings by sacrificing our time to serving humanity in order to follow in the steps of the Holy Prophet (saw).



Khidmat-e-Khalq for the Hereafter

- Hadrat Abu Hurairah (ra) states that the Holy Prophet (saw) said, “Whosoever helps remove the worldly anguish and suffering of a Muslim will have his anguish and suffering removed by Allah the Almighty on the Day of Judgment. Whosoever brings relief to a poor person and brings ease to him will have ease created for him by Allah the Almighty in the Hereafter.” – *Sahīh Muslim*



Khidmat-e-Khalq as a Condition of Bai'at

- Ninth condition of Bai'at: **“That he/she shall keep himself/herself occupied in the service of God’s creature for His sake only and shall endeavor towards the beneficence of mankind to the best of his/her God-given abilities and powers.”**
- As an Ahmadi, it is our responsibility to follow the 10 conditions of Bai'at, one of which is to serve humanity to the best of our ability



Why Serve Humanity?

1. It's an expiation of sins

- a) Allah ta'ala says in Chapter 5, verse 90, "Allah will not call you to account for such of your oaths as are vain, but He will call you to account for the oaths which you take in earnest. Its expiation, then, is the feeding of ten poor persons with such average food as you feed your families with, or the clothing of them or the freeing of a neck. But whoso finds not *the means* shall fast for three days.

2. Providing food to the needy is a sign of love of Allah

- a) "And they feed, for love of Him, the poor, the orphan and the prisoner (Holy Qur'an, chapter 76, verse 9).

3. Not urging one another to feed the needy is a sign of the hell-bound

- a) "And he did not urge the feeding of the poor" (Chapter 69, verse 35)
- b) "The disbelievers did not befriend the poor and did not discharge their obligations to them. So they will have no friend at a time when they will stand in need of one on the Day of Reckoning, and will be given the washing of wounds to satisfy their hunger because they did not feed the needy and the hungry in this life; their acts of omission in this life will take the form of the punishment described in these verses in the next life" (Five vol. commentary of the Holy Qur'an).



Guidance from Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba)

“Never let any opportunity to serve those who are mired in poverty or subjected to hardship slip through your fingers and never, God forbid, allow even a trace of pride to enter your mind”



Hadrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba) at Humanity First Conference 2021



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Helping Members in Need

- It is the duty of the Nazim Khidmat-e-Khalq to identify and assist members in need within their Majlis and to encourage other Khuddam to help as well. Help can be given to the elderly, sick, lone members, refugees/asylum seekers, and possibly new converts. Some ways in which local Nazim Khidmat-e-Khalq can support these members are:
 - Offering emotional help/support
 - Arranging rides for individuals without a car
 - Helping them in grocery shopping
 - Help by cooking food
 - Help the elderly by lending a hand in domestic needs
 - Arrange pick up of their medicine
 - Taking members in need for their appointments
 - Ensuring that at festival times such as Eid, members in need (or converts or people from other ethnic backgrounds who may not have any family to celebrate Eid with) are not forgotten but are included in local festivities
 - Volunteer to interpret for free
 - Teaching children to recite the Holy Quran
 - Encourage members to meet one another within the Majlis to promote social and mental well-being



Take Action Against Hunger

- Volunteer at a local food bank. You can find distribution activities near you at:
 - <https://foodrescuelocator.com/>
 - <https://foodfinder.us/>

