Our Humanitarian Aid Efforts for Gaza Continue Uninterrupted

As Mavi Marmara Freedom and Solidarity Association, we continue donor-supported aid in Gaza, where people are enduring Israel's genocidal campaign, focusing on their most urgent needs. Through our office in Gaza, we distribute hot meals every day from the community kitchens we have established.





We also deliver water by tanker to areas where clean water is unavailable because the Israeli occupation has destroyed infrastructure and pipelines. We continue our longstanding work on orphan sponsorship, zakat distributions, food parcels, and educational support.

Through our social support projects, we continue to stand with people in Gaza who have physical or intellectual disabilities, whether caused by the genocide or present from birth. With healthcare severely limited and travel outside Gaza impossible, many struggle to manage illness and disability without adequate care. Although we cannot directly provide treatment, we offer medical and social support to make daily life easier.



Humanitarian Aid Activities

IN SEPTEMBER, WE CONTINUED DELIVERING AID TO GAZA

During September, we carried out the following distributions in Gaza.

52.500
HOT MEALS

1.500
FOOD PARCELS

6.000
BREAD DISTRIBUTION

1.000
BABY FORMULA

2.000
ICE CREAM DISTRIBUTION

2.000
CHOCOLATE DISTRIBUTION

70
WATER TANKERS

1.500
SCHOOL SUPPLIES & BACKPACKS

WE REACHED 6-YEAR-OLD SILA:
URGENT MEDICAL EVACUATION NEEDED

Six-year-old Sila Abu Krayem was severely injured by shrapnel that struck her spine during an attack while she was playing outside her home in Al-Maghazi Camp, Gaza. Her spinal cord was damaged, and she is awaiting urgent medical evacuation.



Sila was playing at her front door on the day of the attack. During a strike on a nearby location, shrapnel pierced her body, struck her spine, and severely damaged her spinal cord.

Since that day, Sila's life has never been the same. She can no longer stand or sit normally, and she is unable to use the toilet on her own. The severe spinal damage has caused a visible curvature in her body, and she spends her days enduring unbearable pain.

At six, a child should be running, playing, and laughing with friends. For Sila, even the simplest moments of childhood have become a difficult struggle to survive.



WE REACHED 6-YEAR-OLD SILA: URGENT MEDICAL EVACUATION NEEDED

Since the day Sila was injured, her family has held a Category 1, highest-priority medical evacuation form. She needed to leave Gaza for treatment, but this has still not happened. The specialised care she needs is unavailable in Gaza. With the healthcare system severely damaged, accessing treatment becomes more difficult every day.



We contacted Sila and learned about her condition. Her father, Hamza Azzam Abu Krayem, conveyed a father's helplessness as he described his daughter's suffering. "As a father, my heart breaks every time I see her like this."

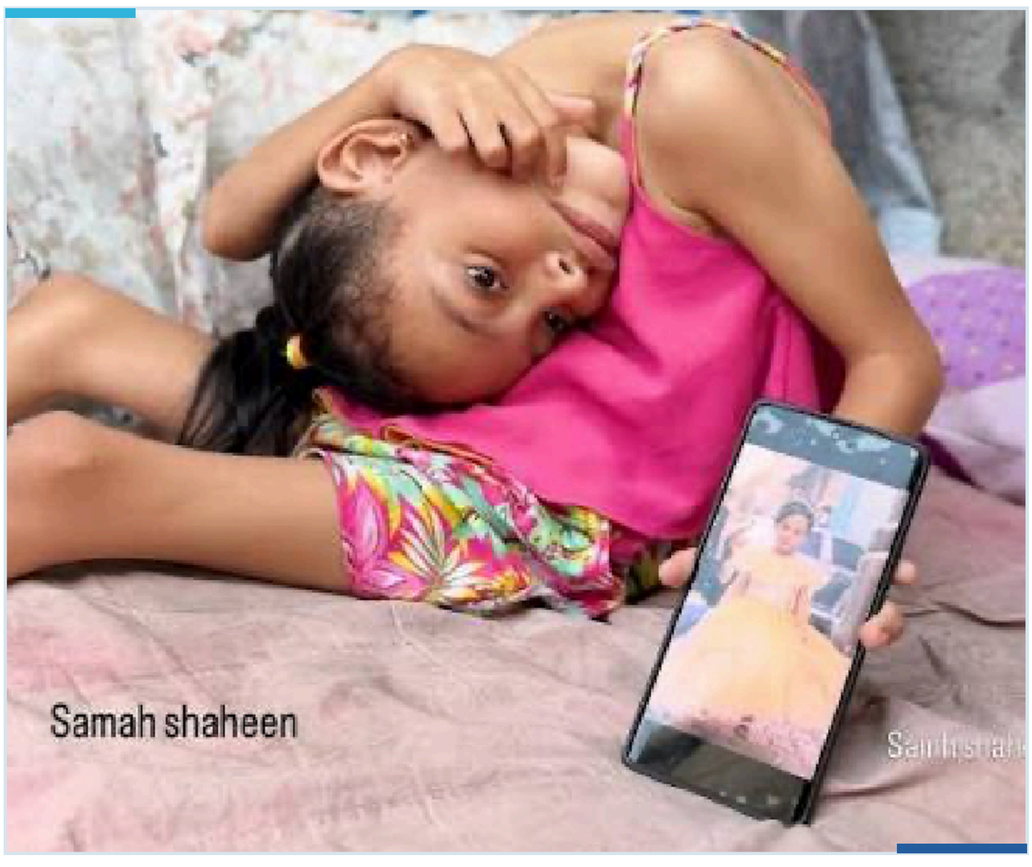
Her father explained that Sila can no longer walk or use the toilet independently, and said the pain his young daughter endures is beyond words:

> **"She is not just in pain;**
> **she is slowly dying before my eyes...**
> **I am losing my daughter."**

Hamza Azzam Abu Krayem said his daughter needs not only medical treatment but also the chance to live like a child again. He called on donors and compassionate people to ensure that she is not also deprived of her right to learn and read:

> **"See my daughter as one of your own,**
> **as one of your own children.**
> **We ask for nothing**
> **other than her right**
> **to treatment."**

Sila is only six. She needs the treatment she requires without delay so she can stand again, find relief from her pain, and keep her childhood from being taken away entirely. We will continue to stand by Sila and other children facing similar struggles, support their needs, and make the world hear what is happening in Gaza.



BRINGING HOPE TO GAZA!

Bringing the Future to Gaza: Backpacks for 5,000 Students at Our Tent Education Campuses



We have launched a new initiative at the Tent Education Campuses we established to help children in Gaza stay connected to education. Through “Bringing the Future to Gaza,” we aim to deliver backpacks and education kits to the 5,000 students studying at our three campuses.

Our campuses serve students of different ages, from primary school through the final year of high school. Classes run in three shifts—morning, afternoon, and evening. Alongside classrooms, the campuses include shared spaces, activity tents, a kindergarten, and a mosque.

BRINGING HOPE TO GAZA!

NOW IT’S TIME TO FILL OUR CHILDREN’S BACKPACKS

With children back in classrooms, we are taking another step to meet their everyday educational needs. Students need notebooks, pens, backpacks, colouring materials, and other essential school supplies. Through “Bringing the Future to Gaza,” we are preparing kits with notebooks, erasers, pencils, pencil cases, rulers, colouring supplies, scissors, backpacks, and other materials.



OUR FIRST GOAL: 5,000 STUDENTS



Our first goal is to provide these kits to all 900 students currently studying at our Tent Education Campuses. If contributions exceed this target, we will deliver additional backpacks to other children in Gaza who need school supplies.

For us, this project complements the educational effort we began through our Tent Education Campuses. We continue working to provide Gaza’s children not only with places to learn, but also with the supplies they need for their educational journey.

By supporting “Bringing the Future to Gaza,” you can help prepare a child’s schoolbag and become part of their educational journey.

INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

WE VISITED UMUDA KOŞANLAR ASSOCIATION!

Our Corporate Relations and Resource Development Department visited Umuda Koşanlar Association as part of our institutional partnership visits. The association has long been active in humanitarian aid in Africa and Palestine. We shared information about Mavi Marmara's work in these regions and discussed potential areas for cooperation.



WE VISITED THE INTERNATIONAL İHYA HUMANITARIAN AID ASSOCIATION!



The International İhya Humanitarian Aid Association is known for its projects in Jerusalem and its work to preserve the city's historical, cultural, and religious heritage for future generations while supporting its residents. During our visit, we discussed the current situation in Jerusalem and shared details of Mavi Marmara's work in Gaza. We also discussed possible cooperation and humanitarian aid projects in the region.

INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

THE ISTANBUL LEADERSHIP OF THE MILLI GENÇLİK ASSOCIATION VISITED OUR OFFICE!



We welcomed the Istanbul leadership of the Milli Gençlik Association to our office. They presented invitations to an event they are organising as part of their “From Roots to the Skies” programmes.

We thank them for their kind visit and meaningful invitation, and wish them every success in their work.

FETİH YOUTH ASSOCIATION VISITED OUR HEAD OFFICE!

We welcomed Mehmet Karataş, President of the Fatih Youth Association, to our office. We had a productive conversation about our field activities and discussed steps we could take together and joint projects we could carry out in the coming period. We thank them for their kind visit and valuable conversation.



WE TOOK OUR PLACE AT MÜSİAD EXPO 2026!

We spoke with representatives from a range of sectors, our volunteers, and supporters, sharing information about our humanitarian aid activities and projects in Gaza and other regions.



WE TOLD TVNET ABOUT OUR HUMANITARIAN AID AND ACTIVISM WORK

Our Board Member Eyyüp Kaymaz spoke to the TVNET team, who visited our stand at MÜSİAD EXPO, about the Association’s work in humanitarian aid and activism.

WE HELD TALKS ON JOINT INITIATIVES

Throughout the fair, we introduced our work to visiting organisations and representatives from many different sectors and held discussions on potential areas of collaboration.





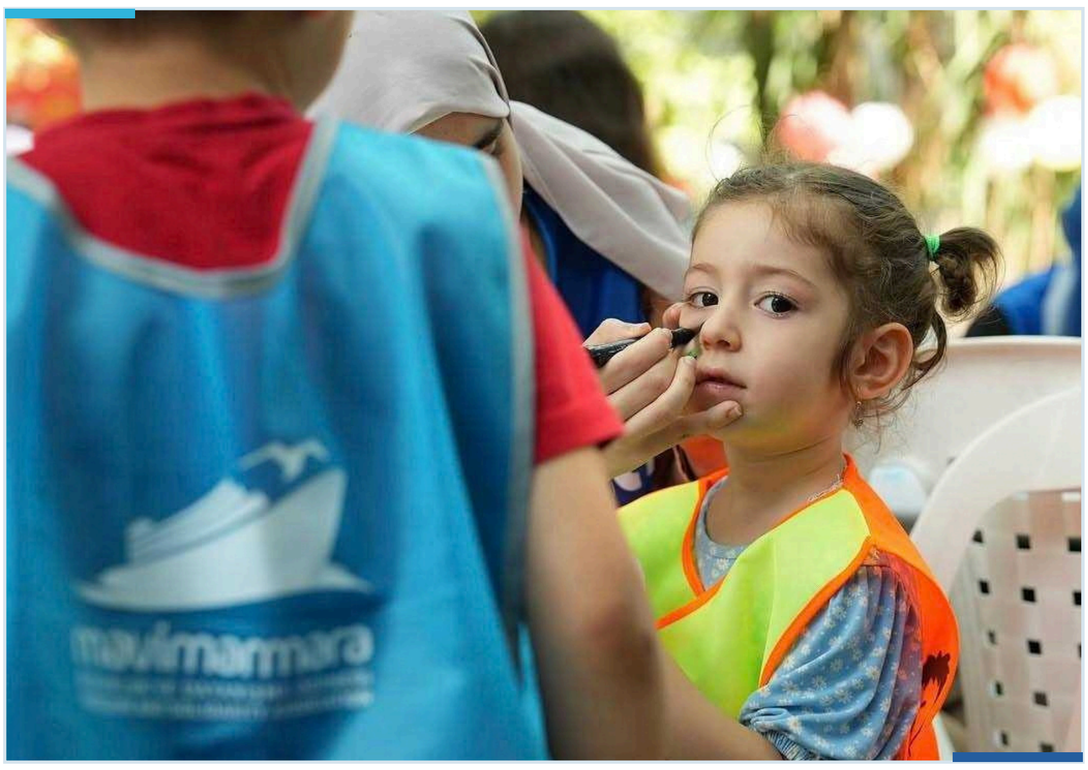
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO VISITED OUR STAND

We thank everyone who met with us, showed interest in our work, and visited our stand throughout MÜSİAD EXPO 2026.

As Mavi Marmara Association, we continue to strengthen our humanitarian aid efforts and extend solidarity into new areas.

WE CAME TOGETHER WITH CHILDREN AT THE HEROES OF AL-AQSA FESTIVAL!

On Saturday, September 19, we shared in the joy of children at the Heroes of Al-Aqsa Children's Festival, held at Şehzadebaşı Mosque.



The festival was designed to strengthen children's connection with Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque and introduce them to Palestine through age-appropriate activities. Children and their families enjoyed the different activity areas throughout the day.

Children's voices, games, and colourful activities brought the festival grounds to life throughout the day.

PLAY, ART, AND TECHNOLOGY CAME TOGETHER

We set up activity stations to suit children's different interests. At the arts and crafts stations, children expressed their imaginations through colour; at the games stations, they had fun together.



The VR headset stations offered a different experience. At the Jerusalem station, content about Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem helped children learn more, while at the Palestine Solidarity stand, we held Palestine-themed activities.

We created an environment where children could discover new things about Jerusalem and Palestine as they played, created, and explored.

WE CAME TOGETHER WITH CHILDREN AT THE HEROES OF AL-AQSA FESTIVAL!

WE MADE ROOM FOR JERUSALEM IN CHILDREN'S LIVES

What mattered most to us throughout the festival was seeing children take part willingly and share their curiosity about Jerusalem.

Some enjoyed painting, some joined the games, and others tried new experiences. Seeing their interest, excitement, and happiness at each activity made the day unforgettable for us too.



We believe love for Palestine and Jerusalem is not just something to be taught; it is a bond that grows through children's happy memories.

WE BROUGHT A WONDERFUL DAY TO A CLOSE TOGETHER



We shared solidarity, brotherhood, and love for Jerusalem with children and families on this special day.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us at the Heroes of Al-Aqsa Children's Festival and helped make the day possible through their efforts and contributions.

The smiles on the children's faces became the most precious memory of this wonderful day for us.

THE FREEDOM FLOTILLA SETS SAIL AGAIN

As the unlawful blockade and siege of Gaza continue, the Freedom Flotilla has set sail once more. On this new journey from European ports to Gaza, human rights defenders, healthcare workers, journalists, trade union representatives, and volunteers advocating freedom for Palestine are coming together. The flotilla aims to reach the coast of Gaza in October 2026.

THE WORLD HAS MOVED ON, BUT GAZA'S REALITY HAS NOT CHANGED

Although Gaza has faded from the headlines, the blockade facing Palestinians has not ended. Attacks and loss of life continue, while restrictions on access to food, medicine, water, fuel, and other essentials remain in place.

That is precisely why the Freedom Flotilla is setting sail again.

The Freedom Flotilla Coalition announced a new international voyage to challenge Israel's unlawful and deadly blockade of Gaza. This journey is not only about ships crossing the sea; it aims to bring Gaza back to the world's attention through solidarity built at every port.

THIS ROUTE DID NOT END IN 2010

Years have passed since the Mavi Marmara. But the determination of the ten humanitarian aid volunteers who lost their lives aboard that ship did not bring the struggle to reach Gaza to an end.

In the years that followed, flotilla volunteers were obstructed, attacked, and detained during different voyages. Last spring, even as hundreds of volunteers faced violence and ill-treatment, that determination did not waver.

The ships setting sail again today carry forward this long struggle.

VIOLENCE COULD NOT STOP US. OUR WILL TO REACH GAZA ENDURES.

FROM PORT TO PORT, FROM PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

The new voyage will travel from port to port across Europe.



In June and July, the Handala II stopped at ports in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Earlier this month, the Kate departed from Bristol in the United Kingdom and travelled to Ireland, Germany, and France.

Before continuing towards Gaza, the flotilla will also visit ports in Spain, Portugal, and Italy.

At each stop, meetings with local communities, press events, and various solidarity activities will be organised. The aim is to build the route to Gaza not only at sea, but also in the conscience of communities.

On this journey, many volunteers—from human rights defenders and healthcare workers to journalists and civil society representatives—are coming together along the same route.

THE GOAL IS CLEAR: GAZA

Alongside its port visits across Europe, the flotilla aims to increase pressure on international public opinion and urge governments to take action over what is happening in Gaza.

The Coalition is calling on governments to guarantee the flotilla’s safe and unhindered passage to Gaza, remove obstacles to the entry of humanitarian aid, and take concrete steps to end the unlawful blockade.

The planned route continues to Gaza after stops in Spain, Portugal, and Italy.

EXPECTED ARRIVAL: OCTOBER 2026



“THE COST OF SILENCE IS EVEN GREATER”

Edward Digilio, an engineer from Maryland, USA, who joined the flotilla, said they knew sailing towards Gaza carried serious risks, but that remaining silent and doing nothing would have far more serious consequences.

These words sum up the flotilla’s guiding principle: to take action rather than watch what is happening in Gaza from afar.

Zohar Chamberlain Regev, a member of the Freedom Flotilla Coalition’s Board, said they would voice the demand for Palestinians to live with dignity and freedom at every port. She said they aim to carry that demand, together with solidarity from around the world, to the coast of Gaza in October.