

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The trustees of Gulan present their third annual report and accounts. This covers the year ended 31 December 2011. The reference and administrative information set out on the previous page form part of this report.

Objects

Gulan was set up for the benefit of the public with the following objects:

- to promote Kurdish art and culture
- to advance education in Kurdish culture
- to promote and assist in the establishment and maintenance of museums, galleries or cultural centres.

Structure, governance and management

Gulan is a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales. It was incorporated on 21 July 2008 and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 21 October 2008.

The three founding trustees, who are also the directors of the company, are Carla Garnelas, David Carrington and Sarah Panizzo. All served throughout the period covered by this report. Under the memorandum and articles of association of the charitable company, there must be at least three trustees.

The trustees have all been provided with information and access to guidance about their responsibilities and obligations under charity and company law. They also meet periodically to review operational plans and progress and financial reports.

The trustees have examined the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that they have taken – and continue to take – the necessary steps to mitigate these risks.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. In the year covered by this report, no expenses were reclaimed from the charity by trustees.

From the inception of Gulan, the trustees have worked with Della Murad who has been the curator and artistic director of all the charity's events.

The trustees are careful, in all that Gulan does, to ensure that they comply with the duty (Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006) to observe and keep under review the public benefit guidance of the Charity Commission.

Review of Activities and Achievements

Gulan was set up to help promote, preserve and sustain Kurdish art and culture. Initially the charity has concentrated on organising events within London that celebrate the richness and diversity of Kurdish culture, heritage and creative skills and encourage greater understanding of the Kurdish people within the UK.

As well as supporting Kurdish cultural events, Gulan plans to research and document the traditional textiles, dress, jewellery and skills of the Kurdish people before they are lost, to collect tangible heritage, and also intangible heritage in the form of memories.

Gulan wishes to help preserve and sustain the sense of Kurdish identity through its heritage and traditional skills not only for the Kurdish people themselves but also for

the benefit of people of all cultures and identities. Gulan's long term aim is to help establish a heritage museum in the Kurdish region of Iraq.

Gulan means flower in Kurdish; it is also a girl's name and the name of a spring month and of a village near Halabja, the town in the Kurdistan region of Iraq which suffered terribly in 1988 in one of the worst of the Anfal gas attacks launched by the Saddam regime.

During 2011, Gulan organised two events: a third Runaki weekend festival celebrating Kurdish culture; and an evening event celebrating the religion and culture of the community known variously as Ahl-e Haqq, Yarsan or Kaka'i, or the People of Truth. The charity also commissioned and launched a new website that is intended not only to provide a record of all Gulan events but also a 'virtual gallery' of traditional Kurdish fashion and jewellery.

Runaki 3!

The *Runaki 3!* festival was curated by Della Murad and held at St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace in Bishopsgate, London throughout the weekend of 25-27 March 2011.

The festival opened with a showing of *The First Movie* (Connect Films, a Screen Siren Pictures produced by Gill Parry). Gulan was delighted that the screening was attended by the film's Director, Mark Cousins, who participated in a discussion with the audience after the screening. *The First Movie* is a remarkable film, described by Mark Adams, chief film critic of *Screen Daily*, as follows: "The premise is simple and the result oddly profound. Cousins and his crew arrive at a Kurdish village in Iraq and set up an outdoor cinema where they show a series of children's film classics – such as *The Red Balloon*, *The Boots* and *E.T.* – for the youngsters of the community. He then hands over to them a batch of Flip cameras and allows them to film stories of their own, often influenced by the movies they have seen, but always overtly linked to the circumstances they live in....brought up in a village which suffered greatly under Saddam Hussein. At its heart this charming film is about cinema and children rather than death and war." Among the many positive comments left by people seeing the film at *Runaki 3!*: "Thank you for bringing these exquisite and joyful children into our consciousness – and for providing Mark and his huge heart and spirit for us to touch" and "I was intrigued to see a Director from the west shine a spotlight on the past, future and dreams of a new generation in Kurdistan."

Throughout the weekend the work of contemporary Kurdish artists was exhibited. The artists featured were Rebwar Saed, Ismail Khayat, Simko Ahmed and Omid Shali. Screen prints by Layla Faylee and the work of photographers Ako Ghareb Maroof, Rostam Aghala, Araam Issa Yousif and Safin Hamid Ahmed were also presented. Three short films were shown on a continuous loop: *Yayli* by Sarwar Mohamad Amin, *Phone Story* by Binesva Berivan (shown with kind permission of Playtime Films and the London Kurdish Film Festival) and *Who are the Kurds?*, a Kurdistan Regional Government Production.

On the Saturday evening a concert of Kurdish music was presented to an enthusiastic capacity audience, featuring Olcay and the renowned singer Mikael. On the Sunday afternoon Karwan Omar gave a stunning display of contemporary dance. The festival concluded that evening with a Poetry Gala including the work of Sherko Bekes, Fayiq Bekes, Hemin Mukryani, Ahmen Hardi and Gegarxwin. Film was shown of the poets and some of their work was interpreted with music performed by Ahmed Anvari, Mansour Izadpanah, Awat Rosham and others. The evening was introduced by Sarah Panizzo and readers included Vian Rahman, Carla Garnelas, Shna, Chiman Rahimi, Suna Kose and Lara Fatah.

The Ahl-e Haqq, Yarsan or Kaka'i, the People of Truth

On 11 November 2011 Gulan organised an evening event devoted to the Ahl-e Haqq, also known as Yarsan or Kaka'i, The People of Truth. This was the third in Gulan's series of events celebrating minority faiths of Kurdistan.

During the evening there was an exhibition of the work of Kaka'i artist Salar Majeed and of photography of Ahl-e Haqq people and shrines. The audience heard presentations by two speakers, Yiannis Kanakis, ethnomusicologist and Research Fellow from Exeter University, who is currently co-authoring a book on Yarsan religion, ritual and music, and Dr Golmorad Moradi, born the son of a nomadic Kurdish Yarsani family in 1941 in Iranian Kurdistan. He studied and taught at the University of Heidelberg, and is President of the Cultural Association of Yarsan Community Abroad. In addition, greetings were received from Mr Falajaldeen Kakai, formerly Minister of Culture in the Kurdistan Regional Government and a leader of the Kaka'i people. There was a reading of the work of poet Baba Tahir and a performance of Kaka'i religious music by Arash Moradi, tanbour, and Fariborz Kiannejad, tombak.

Both *Runaki 3!* And the Ahl-e Haqq evening were held at St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace. The trustees of Gulan are very grateful to St Ethelburgas for allowing Gulan to use the splendid Centre for the third consecutive year. The trustees are also grateful to the many volunteers who helped to ensure that both events were a success.

Website

During the year Gulan commissioned Richard Wilding to design a new website for the charity. The website is not only intended to provide a visual and documented record of each Gulan event but to become an authoritative and comprehensive 'virtual gallery' of traditional Kurdish costume and jewellery. The new site was launched in December 2011 and has attracted much positive comment, for example: "lovely images, colours and content".....an "impressive website, very attractive and informative."

Plans for the Future

The increased financial security that Gulan enjoys as a result of the generosity of its major donor and other supporters has enabled the trustees to plan its most ambitious event, an evening about *The Jews of Kurdistan* at the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) in Kensington to be held on 28 June 2012. This event will be built

around a lecture by Professor Yona Sabar, Professor of Hebrew and Aramaic at UCLA, and his son, Ariel, the author of the wonderful book *My Father's Paradise*. The RGS event will also enable Gulan to show in public for the first time historic images of Iraq photographed during the 1940's by Anthony Kersting. These photographs come from the matchless archive at the Courtauld Institute's Conway Library and will be presented by Gulan with kind permission of the Institute and also of the Executors of the Kersting estate. Gulan has been fortunate to receive a development grant for *The Jews of Kurdistan* project from the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI) to whom the trustees are most grateful.

The RGS event will be followed on 30 June 2012 by a concert at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre in Tottenham which will provide a rare opportunity to hear a concert in the UK of Jewish Kurdish music featuring singer Ilana Eliya ("who combines beauty, power and tremendous depth in her astonishing voice") supported by Daphna Sadeh & the Voyagers.

The trustees will also continue throughout 2012 to work with Richard Wilding and Della Murad to develop further the charity's website.

Thanks

The trustees are grateful for the help and support of many people for the successful development of the charity in 2011. In particular, they would like to record their gratitude to the charity's major donor, Giovanni Garrisi and their pleasure that he has agreed to become Patron of the charity. The trustees have also much appreciated advice and help from a range of experts, most notably Rebwar Saed and Vian Rahman.

Financial Review

During 2011, £15,849 (2010: £29,736) was raised and expenditure on the charity's work totalled £17,074 (2010: £10,355) – an operational deficit of £1,225 (2010: £19,381 surplus). The 2011 deficit was more than covered by the unrestricted reserves built up in the previous two years, notably through the exceptional donation received in 2010 from Giovanni Garrisi. When that donation was received, the trustees decided to designate half the donation as development funding for planning new projects in future years, retaining the balance for general reserves. The designated fund remained intact at the end of 2011.

Incoming funds received in 2011 came from a combination of donations from individuals, support for both *Runaki 3!* and the Ahl-e Haqq event from the Kurdistan Regional Government and from Levenes Solicitors and a grant from the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI) to help with the initial work on planning *The Jews of Kurdistan* event to be held in 2012. Sales of the Gulan 2011 calendar (produced for sale initially at the event about the Faylee community that Gulan organised in November 2010) also generated income and provided useful promotion of the work for the charity.

The trustees are especially grateful for the continued support of the Kurdistan Regional Government UK Representation and Levenes Solicitors – both have been consistent and generous in their financial support and encouragement to the charity as it has developed its work and profile.

At the year end, funds carried forward totalled £20,341 (£21,566 at the end of the previous year), including the grant provided by BISI which, though received in 2011, was intended for spending in 2012. £9,841 of the funds carried forward into 2012 were unrestricted general funds (£11,566 brought forward from the previous year).

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees of Gulan are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) do not consider that an audit or an independent examination is required for 2011 because the income and expenditure of the charity is less than £25,000. As the total income received in 2010 by the charity was more than £25,000, an independent examination of the accounts for that year was carried out.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 December 2011 was three (2010: 3). The trustees are the members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee: David Carrington

Date: 11/08/2012

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2011

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2011 Total £	2010 Total £
Incoming resources					
<i>From generated funds</i>					
Grants and Donations	2	7,853	808	8,661	27,830
Gift Aid received		-	5,826	5,826	0
Bank Interest		-	12	12	9
<i>From charitable activities</i>					
Events		-	1,157	1,157	1,249
Sales of Calendars		-	193	193	648
Total Incoming resources		<u>7,853</u>	<u>7,996</u>	<u>15,849</u>	<u>29,736</u>
Resources expended					
<i>Charitable Activities</i>					
Events	3	7,353	4,341	11,694	9,754
Website		-	5,200	5,200	-
Calendar		-	-	-	565
<i>Governance Costs</i>		-	180	180	36
Total resources expended		<u>7,353</u>	<u>9,721</u>	<u>17,074</u>	<u>10,355</u>
Net incoming resources		<u>500</u>	<u>(1,725)</u>	<u>(1,225)</u>	<u>19,381</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		-	21,566	21,566	2,185
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>500</u></u>	<u><u>19,841</u></u>	<u><u>20,341</u></u>	<u><u>21,566</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 7 to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2011

	Note	£	2011 £	2010 £
Current assets				
Debtors		-		-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>20,341</u>		<u>21,566</u>
		20,341		21,566
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		<u>-</u>		
Net current assets			<u>20,341</u>	<u>21,566</u>
Net assets	6		<u><u>20,341</u></u>	<u><u>21,566</u></u>
The funds of the charity	7			
Restricted funds			500	-
Unrestricted General Funds			9,841	11,566
Unrestricted Designated Funds			<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>20,341</u></u>	<u><u>21,566</u></u>

For the year ended 31 December 2011, the charitable company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies;

Directors' responsibilities:

- the members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006;
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts;
- these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee: David Carrington

Date: 11/08/2012

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

They follow the recommendations in the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).

b) Incoming Resources

Grants, donations and payments from people attending events are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

This amount covers donations received from the general public, grants from individuals and sponsors and payments for services.

c) Resources Expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. Resources expended include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Expenditure is classified under the charity's principal categories of activity. Costs and overhead expenses are allocated to activities on the basis of time spent on these activities.

d) Governance costs

These comprise both costs related specifically to and apportioned to the governance of the charity. In 2011 these comprised only the cost of the fee paid for the Independent Examination of the charitable company's accounts for 2010 as income received in that year exceeded £25,000.

e) Accumulated funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objectives of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

The trustees have designated some incoming general funds for use in future years and these are recorded as such (see note 7).

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

2. Grants and Donations

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2011 Total	2010 Total
	£	£	£	£
Kurdistan Regional Government	3,000	-	3,000	2,000
Levenes Solicitors	4,250	-	4,250	3,000
NRD Derewe	-	-	-	2,000
British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI)	500	-	500	-
Donations from individuals	103	808	911	20,830
Total	7,853	808	8,661	27,830

3. Total Resources Expended

	Events	Website Develop- ment	Governance	2011 Total	2010 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs directly allocated to activities					
Event and Product Provision	11,694	5,200	-	16,894	9,535
Governance (Ind Exam Fee)	-	-	180	180	20
Support costs allocated to activities					
Marketing and Fund-raising	-	-	-	-	294
Office and Organisation	-	-	-	-	212
Trustees' reimbursed Expenses (see Note 4)	-	-	-	-	294
Total resources expended	11,694	5,200	180	17,074	10,355

4. Trustees' reimbursed expenses

None of the trustees received any remuneration or reimbursed expenses during the year. (In 2010 trustees' reimbursed expenses represented the reimbursement of the costs of one trustee attending a conference organised by the Kurdistan Regional Government in London in June 2010).

5. Taxation

The charitable company is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

6. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Cash at bank £	Debtors £	Creditors £	Total funds £
Unrestricted Funds	19,841	0	0	19,841
Restricted Funds	500	0	0	500
Net assets at 31/12/2011	20,341	0	0	20,341

7. Movement in funds

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:				
Kurdistan Regional Government	-	3,000	3,000	0
Levenes Solicitors	-	4,250	4,250	0
BISI	-	500	0	500
Personal Donation	-	103	103	0
Total restricted funds	0	7,853	7,353	500
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	11,566	7,996	9,721	9,841
Designated funds	10,000	0	0	10,000
Total funds	21,566	7,996	9,721	20,341

Purpose of restricted funds:

1. £3,000 from the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq, £3,000 from Levenes Solicitors, and £103 from an individual donor towards the costs of the *Runaki!3* Festival held in March 2011
2. £1,250 from Levenes Solicitors towards the costs of *A Celebration of the Ahl-e Haqq, also known as Yarsan or Kaka'i – the People of Truth* held in November 2011
3. £500 from the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI) was received in 2011 for use in 2012 on the development of the event planned for June 2012 on *The Jews of Kurdistan*.

Purpose of designated funds:

The charity received an exceptional donation in 2010. The trustees decided in that year to designate the application of some (£10,000) of the donation to future year's running costs so as to strengthen the ability of the charity to plan ahead.