

SHEIKH TIHAMI IBRAHIM NYASS  
FOUNDATION, CLINIC & DARRA

ANNUAL REPORT  
2019

# Table of Content

- PART A - OVERVIEW..... 3**
- 1. INTRODUCTION..... 3
  - 1.1. *Vision*..... 3
  - 1.2. *Approach*..... 3
  - 1.3. *Scope of the report*..... 3
- PART B – WHAT WE DO & WHY..... 4
- 2. THE SOCIAL PROBLEM AND THE SOLUTION..... 4
  - 2.1. *The social problem*..... 4
  - 2.2. *Our contribution to solution finding*..... 4
    - 2.2.1. Work performed (output) and direct target groups..... 4
    - 2.2.2. Results on direct and indirect target groups..... 7
- 3. RESULTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD..... 8
  - 3.1. *Provisions taken for the accompanying evaluation and quality assurance*..... 8
  - 3.2. *Previous year comparison: Objectives achieved, learning experience and success*..... 8
    - 3.2.1. Clinic..... 8
    - 3.2.2. Midwifery..... 8
    - 3.2.3. Pharmacy..... 8
    - 3.2.4. Laboratory..... 9
    - 3.2.5. Darra..... 9
    - 3.2.6. Website and Facebook profile..... 9
    - 3.2.7. Fundraising Partner: Gesundheit und Bildung Gambia e.V..... 9
- 4. PLANNING AND FORECAST..... 10
  - 4.1. *Planning and targets*..... 10
    - 4.1.1. Clinic..... 10
    - 4.1.2. Midwifery..... 10
    - 4.1.3. Pharmacy..... 10
    - 4.1.4. Laboratory..... 10
    - 4.1.5. Darra..... 10
  - 4.2. *Influence factors: chances and risks*..... 11
- 5. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND TEAM..... 11
  - 5.1. *Organisational structure*..... 11
  - 5.2. *Introduction of the participating individuals*..... 11
  - 5.3. *Partnerships, cooperation and networks*..... 11
    - 5.3.1. Daughters of Gambia..... 11
- PART C – THE ORGANISATION..... 12**
- 6. ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE..... 12
  - 6.1. *General information about the organisation*..... 12
  - 6.2. *Governance of the organisation*..... 13
    - 6.2.1. Management and management body..... 13
    - 6.2.2. Board of supervisors..... 13
    - 6.2.3. Conflicts of interests..... 13
    - 6.2.4. Internal control systems..... 13
  - 6.3. *Ownership structure, memberships and associated organisations*..... 13
    - 6.3.1. Membership in other organisations..... 13
    - 6.3.2. Associated organisations..... 13
  - 6.4. *Social profile*..... 13
- 7. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING PRACTICES..... 14
  - 7.1. *Income and expenditure*..... 14
  - 7.2. *Financial planning*..... 15

## **PART A - OVERVIEW**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Sheikh Tihami Ibrahim Nyass Foundation is a charitable, non-profit making, non-political and non-religious organization, that seeks to promote culture and development in The Gambia.

The foundation operates

- a non-profit community clinic mostly known for its delivery rooms, maternity wards, and services attached to pregnancy, e.g. antenatal and postnatal checkup,
- immunization programs for new-borns, and
- a shelter for girls from disadvantaged families.

Fatou Gaye, a Gambian nurse and midwife, initiated the foundation in 2012. After years of serving as midwife to women in all imaginable states of personal situations, she realized that her determination doesn't allow her to stop caring her patients after welcoming a new-born. She also understood that a girl's fortune is extremely fragile and much too easy to shake when a family's good luck is undermined due to rough economic circumstances.

Consequently, Fatou Gaye together with family and friends founded Sheikh Tihami Ibrahim Nyass Foundation, to shelter her women-focussed clinic and a girls' shelter (a Darra, as the name for children' shelters is in Gambia).

### **Vision**

Our work express the desire of being part of Gambia's development as a peaceful, forward-looking nation that offers equal chances to each of its member no matter what gender, religion, economic status, or language.

We seek to contribute individually and collectively in a participatory manner.

### **Approach**

Guided by UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG), we operate a community clinic focused on obstetrics, and a shelter for girls from disadvantaged families financed by clinic's revenues as well as with donations.

### **Scope of the report**

The report scopes on the work of the clinic and the work of the girls' shelter (Darra).

Reporting period is the year 2019. This is our first Annual Report.

If you like to know more about our goals, the report, or what else you need to clarify, please do not hesitate to contact Aunty Fatou Gaye, Secretary to the Executive Committee of the Foundation, Head of Midwifery of the Clinic, and Mother of girls's shelter. Please find contact details under 6.1..

## PART B – WHAT WE DO & WHY

### THE SOCIAL PROBLEM AND THE SOLUTION

#### The social problem

Social problems that we approach root in gender based disadvantages for women and girls. There is many of them, and we focus on the following:

- Lack of gynaecology clinics, delivery rooms, maternity wards, and lack of midwives let Gambian women still struggle with limited access to professional support during pregnancy and delivery which results in mother and baby mortality rates above international average, especially out of Greater Banjul Area.
- Limitation in family planning means and consultation options, accompanied by poverty lead to over-average numbers of girls married and pregnant (long) before their 18.th birthdays. Almost all of them cannot achieve school leaving certificates, thus excluded from jobs with sustainable incomes.
- Extensive fees for higher education exclude more girls than boys from entering secondary schools.

#### Our contribution to solution finding

##### Work performed (output) and direct target groups

Target group	Pregnant women
Contribution to MDG	5: To improve maternal health
Target group description	Our services are accepted mainly by pregnant women of Kunkujang Keitaya neighborhood, but also of more distant areas of Old Yundum and Western Division.
Work performed (output)	Regularly scheduled antenatal checkup: general and specialized consultation with midwife, forwarding to doctor if needed, prescribing and providing drugs, Transfer to hospital if needed, Pre-registration for birth.
Work based on	Consultation fees: depending on the service used, Donations: drugs, dressings, clinic equipment, Staff: 2 doctors, 2 State Enrolled Midwives, 3 State Registered Nurses.

Target group	Delivering women
Contribution to MDG	4: To reduce child mortality 5: To improve maternal health
Target group description	Our services are accepted mainly by pregnant women of Kunkujang Keitaya neighborhood but also of more distant areas of Old Yundum and Western Division.
Work performed (output)	Total numbers of deliveries: 513, Monitoring of the child's well-being, pain relief within our means, Manual performance of midwife's support, continuously attended child-birth, At least 4-hour observation at the maternity ward of both mother and child incl. postnatal check-up for both mother and child, Emergency transfer of women in need for caesarian section to the hos-

Target group	Delivering women
Contribution to MDG	4: To reduce child mortality 5: To improve maternal health
	pitals of Serrekunda or Greater Banjul Area: ca. 50, Accommodation of a companion person, 1 postnatal check-up within the first month, incl. general condition of mother and child, blood pressure monitoring, pulse control, fundus control, breast examination, breastfeeding advice, if applicable: examination of birth injuries; to the baby: weight control, skin control for new-born jaundice, cord care.
Work based on	Delivery fee: 1.500 Dalasi, Donations: consumable supplies, 24/7 on-call-service for midwife and doctor, Staff: 2 State Enrolled Midwives, Volunteers: April – May, German midwife Nene Keita, Own ambulance car (2 drivers for 24/7 emergency service).

Target group	New-born babies and their mothers
Contribution to MDG	4: To reduce child mortality 5: To improve maternal health 6: To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
Target group description	Mainly mothers who delivered with us, and their babies, but also all other mothers with new-born babies
Work performed (output)	immunisation program for the new-borns each Sunday
Work based on	Donations: serum and material donations, Staff: 1 State Registered Nurse,

Target group	Orphaned and other vulnerable girls
Contribution to MDG	1: To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger 2: To achieve universal primary education 3: To promote gender equality and empower women 4: To reduce child mortality
Target group description	Orphaned girls, and girls from difficult familiar circumstances, e.g. poverty, divorce, death, homelessness. Our shelter intakes any girl without asking neither religion nor tribe.

Target group	Orphaned and other vulnerable girls																								
Contribution to MDG	1: To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger 2: To achieve universal primary education 3: To promote gender equality and empower women 4: To reduce child mortality																								
Work performed (output)	<p>The girls live with Fatou Gaye (Founder, Head of Midwifery, Secretary to the Executive Committee of the Foundation) as her mother.</p> <p>The shelter provides them love and care, bed and food, medical and social support, and education. The youngest girl is just a baby, the eldest attend secondary schools.</p> <p>2 dormitories, 3 rooms with up to 6 beds, 1 – 2 nannies, living inhouse with the girls, Up to 3 teachers for private lessons.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>number of children</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4 - 6 years</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 - 12 years</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14 - 16 years</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17 - 19 years</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>above 20 years</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>unknown</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>School attendance</th> <th>number of children</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>not yet in school</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lower Basic: Grade 1 to 6</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Upper Basic: Grade 7 to 9</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary: Grade 10 to 12</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age	number of children	4 - 6 years	3	10 - 12 years	10	14 - 16 years	8	17 - 19 years	7	above 20 years	1	unknown	20	School attendance	number of children	not yet in school	7	Lower Basic: Grade 1 to 6	28	Upper Basic: Grade 7 to 9	4	Secondary: Grade 10 to 12	3
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Work based on	Clinic's profits transferred to the Darra, Donations: livelihood, school fee, special medical treatment for 1 heartsick and 1 disabled girl.																								

Target group	Community
Contribution to MDG	3: To promote gender equality and empower women
Target group description	Nurses and midwives in training, female able-to-working population
Work performed (output)	<p>Providing internships for nurses and midwives in training: Practical introduction to their future field of work,</p> <p>Preference for women on hiring processes: 28 of 36 staff members are female.</p>
Work based on	We ground our commitment on the Foundation's constitution, and our understanding of general responsibility for our nation.

Target group	Community
Contribution to MDG	4: To reduce child mortality 6: To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
Target group description	neighbourhood children, children from any Gambian darra <sup>1</sup>
Work performed (output)	Free first aid treatment for pupils (ca. 3.000) and teachers (ca. 50) of Kunkujang Keitaya Lower and Upper Basic School during school hours, Free first aid treatment for any Gambian darra children.
Work based on	We ground our commitment our Foundation's constitution, and our understanding of general responsibility for the peaceful rising of our nation. Donations: serum, drugs, consumables. Staff: due to the patients need (doctor and/ or nurse)

## Results on direct and indirect target groups

Our work has been making significant contributions to the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the development of The Gambia ever since STIN Foundation was founded:

Our clinic is small but still making a difference in an area without any other medical facility: ca. 12.000 patients were appointed, 513 deliveries carried out, or – in case of emergency – safely forwarded on ambulance car to a hospital. Thus, we contributed to the decreasing of mother mortality rate.

Although new-born immunisation is commonly accepted in The Gambia, the governmental support for immunisation programs is limited to the state hospitals of which is none in the Kunkujang Keitaya area. Offering immunisation on our own expenses saves parents from a decision between travelling to a hospital, waiting in rows for hours, paying entrance and transport fees, or just drop the immunisation hoping for the best. Thus, we contributed to the decreasing of new-born and children mortality rate.

We cannot estimate how the free-of-charge first aid to pupils of the Kunkujang Keitaya Lower and Upper Basic School influenced their educational results nor how the medical treatment of their teachers contributed to the regularity of lessons – but there *must be* an impact because, we were awarded a Letter of Appreciation by the Headmaster at the end of summer term 2019.

We also cannot estimate how much the impact on our society is by employing 36 persons, most of them women. But we are confident, there *is* an impact regarding gender equality, social peace, education chances and wealth within at least 36 families.

As to our girls in the Darra: Our girls' shelter is a role model for Gambia, it's an investment in the personal future of ca. 50 girls of disadvantaged families as well as in the common future of our country. With us, the girls are safe from all kinds of exploitation, before FGM and forced/child-marriage. They have access to full education and medical treatment; they feel the comfort of a stout family. They learn to stand together and to share makes them stronger. They learn that working for a community pays in support by the community. – All that learnings will pay back soon, when they are grown up becoming mothers and employees, maybe leader of companies, authorities or parties. They will spread our Foundation's idea of humanity beyond limitations of gender, religion, caste or wealth.

## RESULTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

### Provisions taken for the accompanying evaluation and quality assurance

The quality of our clinical work is due to regular inspections by Gambian Health authorities. We fulfilled all requested quality standards, and got again all needed licences to carry on.

We kept on the way of professionalizing our work, and set up a staff administration process as well as a children administration process. To set up an application process consisting of written applications plus oral interview, is one of the measurements taken.

<sup>1</sup> Darra: commonly financed safe-house for children (mainly boys) of a mosque community

Due to donation of an additional laptop, we started digital bookkeeping and could release our first digital Annual Financial Report (2018).

## **Previous year comparison: Objectives achieved, learning experience and success**

### **Clinic**

Due to important additions to buildings, and opening a pharmacy and a laboratory in 2018, the number of patients had been constantly growing from ca. 12.000 in 2018 up to ca. 18.400 in 2019.

Among patients those suffering from diabetes are most.

### **Midwifery**

Our clinic gets more and more recognized beyond the neighbourhood for being a place for women to deliver safely with professional (female) support, in a clean environment, on affordable fees.

The quality of our midwifery is clearly shown in two numbers: In 2018, we performed ca. 250 deliveries – in 2019, we performed 513 deliveries.

We count that on our committed work ethos, on our professional team including 2 midwives (beside Fatou Gaye), 24/7 service-on-call, the hands-on pharmacy and laboratory, and on a high hygienic level.

### **Pharmacy**

We opened the pharmacy in 2018 after we learned that clinic revenues and cash donations enable us to purchase from reliable suppliers. Additionally, we receive drugs and dressing materials by kind donations. Stocks are due to daily replenishment.

The pharmacy serves both in- and out patients, and is open 24/7 with 3 pharmacy assistants. Drugs are only given out on doctor's prescription. As we detest all illegal practice of selling hospital drugs to dealers, getting hold of legal drugs on affordable prices proved to be one of our biggest challenges: We spent ca. 40% of clinical revenues on purchasing drugs (2018: 49%).

### **Laboratory**

We started basic laboratory service in 2018, and we expanded in October 2019 after donation of a binocular microscope with ocular camera and laptop. We hired an experienced Laboratory Technician which is now teaching lab basics to a nurse attendant. The new micro already creates additional revenues regularly as every patient is due to certain lab checks. Having an own lab, saves our patients time and transport fees.

### **Darra**

Traditionally, Darra is a commonly financed save house of a mosque community in Gambia providing boys with food and basic (religious) education. It serves as either permanent or temporary shelter for them who lost one or both parents, or whose family cannot afford their living costs due to rough economic circumstances.

We modernized the idea to the advantage of vulnerable *girls*: It is not only rudimentary shelter; we also give them love and care, medical and social support, general and religious education on equal terms. Our Darra understands itself as a family, with Fatou Gaye as mother. We asked neither religion nor tribe upon intake. The youngest girl is just a baby, the eldest are attending secondary schools.

The very nature of Gambian Darra is determined by certain fluctuations due to the ruling concept of extended family structures: Girls arrive after their mom died and often luckily leave with a stepmom or an aunt. Other girls stay for a fixed period while their parents try hard to make a living abroad. Some girls live with us because their family lost all means to feed and house them, but they will return after recovering, even if it takes years.

As clinic revenues and donations keep increasing, we could intake up to 55 girls, in 2019 (2018: 35).

### **Website and Facebook profile**

In 2019, STIN Foundation extended its public representation by setting up an own website [www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com](http://www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com) as well as an own Facebook profile [www.facebook.com/stinfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/stinfoundation).



Main goal of the website is to reach out for the interested public explaining the general issues of our work. We count it as a huge success to attract 555 website visitors, in equal parts mainly from Gambia and Germany but also from many other European, African and American countries.

Mostly, visitors came across Facebook content related to Fatou Gaye and the clinic, and checked cross-links to the website. Starting in November 2019, the Facebook profile gained 41 “likes” until end of 2019.

### **Fundraising Partner: Gesundheit und Bildung Gambia e.V.**

In 2019, the Foundation started fundraising partnership with German and Gambia based ngo *Gesundheit und Bildung Gambia e.V.* (Health and Education Gambia). The cooperation included in 2019 and will include in 2020:

1. Joint fundraising for medical emergencies:
  - From Sept 2019 until Jan. 2020, the ngo’s monthly donation of 5.500 Dalasi supported the treatment of a patient severely suffering from diabetes. The treatment saved the patient from foot amputation.
  - Starting in 2019, the ngo has been coordinating a fundraising campaign for a heart-sick shelter girl. The campaign will be continued in 2020 and result either in a cardiologic operation or in palliative care following the not yet given proposal of the examining cardiologist.
  - In 2020, the ngo will support initial examination of a shelter girl suffering from spinal injuries.
2. Joint fundraising for technical equipment:
  - In 2019, the ngo supported the foundation’s Christmas campaign for delivery room equipment. The campaign closed successfully. A drying oven/ incubator as well as delivery room consumables were purchased. They are due to shipment in January 2020 from Hamburg to Banjul.
  - In 2020, the ngo will support our applications to charities and companies for laboratory equipment.
3. Joint fundraising for construction of a new girls’ house:
  - In addition to our 2019’s application to a charity for construction funds, the ngo will join us in setting up construction plans and launch a campaign for kind donations of building materials.

## **PLANNING AND FORECAST**

### **Planning and targets**

#### **Clinic**

We want to keep the number of patients on stable levels and to provide them with medical services as they are used to.

After a successful fundraising campaign for ultrasound device substitution, we hope to install a device in March 2020, as the current one is running out of service.

#### **Midwifery**

We want to keep the numbers of deliveries on stable levels and to provide mothers-to-be as good as they are used to.

As Gambia lacks professional midwives, this goal will be one of our biggest challenges. We will face it with a call for applications amongst Gambians and amongst the global volunteering community. Additionally, we want to apply as partner for German Volunteer Network Organization e.V.

## Pharmacy

We are confident to keep the quality level of the pharmacy.

## Laboratory

Lab service is a sound source of revenues as every patient is due to undergoes one or more tests depending on his/ her personal situation. Still, we have to direct too many patients to outbound labs, thus cutting off own incomes.

Therefore, one of our most important goals in 2020 is the expanding of lab services. Together with our German partnering ngo Gesundheit und Bildung Gambia e.V. (Health and Education Gambia), we focus on purchasing a haematology analyser, biochemical analyser and electrolyte analyser.

## Darra

For 2020, we set ourselves two goals for the Darra:

- We want to establish a Darra Donation Pool with sufficient regular monthly donations to meet Darra related expenses reliably.
- We want to build a better house for our girls. By now, they are housed in 2 dormitories and 3 rooms, none of them providing private sphere or quiet places to learn. To reach that goal, we applied with a Vienna based charity, which will release decisions in May 2020. We accompany the application with calls for kind donations to start the construction process anyway. We hope to celebrate opening of the new building Christmas 2020.

## Influence factors: chances and risks

Our work very much depends on personal commitment of all persons involved. We are eager to provide every of them with best working conditions.

2020 is a crucial year in Gambia's politics. As our work matters in public recognition, especially in terms of gender equality and community engagement, we feel obliged to stand as a role model for peaceful, democratic development in accordance with human rights.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND TEAM

### Organisational structure

Our foundation's structure is simple: It owns the land and buildings on/ in which the clinic and the Darra are built and operating. No more, no less.

An Executive Committee rules the Foundation.

### Introduction of the participating individuals

Names	Positions	Main Responsibilities
Sheikh Tijan Njang Senior	President	Represents the organization at outside engagement and negotiations, signs all important documents of the organization including finance.
Fatou Gaye	Secretary, Head of Midwifery, Mother of Shelter	Responsible for keeping of the administration and financial records, and for public relations
Sheikh Tijan Njang Junior	Treasurer	Manages all issues regarding funds, medical student

## **Partnerships, cooperation and networks**

### **Daughters of Gambia**

Daughters of Gambia is a 2019 found Gambia based charity managed by former football player Ms. Adama Jarju.

As we share the same values and goals, we occasionally cooperating in order to promote events, such as Yakarr Female Football Festival, actions regarding sustainable ecological development of The Gambia or actions to combat FGM.

## Part C – The Organisation

### ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

#### General information about the organisation

Organisation name	Sheikh Tihami Ibrahim Nyass Foundation
Organisation location	Kunkujang Keitaya, Old Yundum, West Coast Division The Gambia, West Africa
Organisation Founding	17. October 2012
Further branches	none
Legal form	Foundation
Contact details	Kunkujang Keitaya, Old Yundum Near Freetown Junction GPS: 13°22'52.1"N 16°40'26.5"W Phone: +220 77 44 796 <a href="mailto:Tihami-gaye@posteo.de">Tihami-gaye@posteo.de</a> <a href="http://www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com">www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com</a>
Link to Articles of Association (URL)	<a href="http://www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com/contact/transparency">www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com/contact/transparency</a>
Registration	Registry of Companies, Banjul Registration Number: 413/2012 Date of registration: 17. Okt. 2012
Details of the non-profit purpose Issuing authority	Sheikh Tihami Ibrahim Nyass Foundation is a charitable, non-profit making, non-political and non-religious organization, that seeks to promote culture and development in The Gambia.  Tax office: Kanifing Tax Office, The Gambia

#### Governance of the organisation

##### Management and management body

Sheikh Tihami Ibrahim Nyass Foundation is managed by its Executive Committee:

Names	Position
Sheikh Tijan Njang Senior	President
Fatou Gaye	Secretary
Sheikh Tijan Njang Junior	Treasurer
Mariama Njang	Adviser
Nizam Faye	Member
Sheikh Bai Njang	Member
Lamin Faye	Member

##### Board of supervisors

A Board of supervisors has yet not been installed. Even to the given fact that a Board of supervisors is an useful mean to avoid corruption, its installation is yet unusual in The Gambia.

## **Conflicts of interests**

All members of the Executive Committee devoted their professional engagement to the Foundation. As for cultural context of The Gambia, they are especially committed *because* being related to the same (extended) family.

## **Internal control systems**

Another internal control system beyond the work ethics known to all staff and management members, everybody's common sense of responsibility, accountability before God and the own conscience has yet not been installed.

Especially our girls' shelter depends on trustful supports from outside our foundation. That's a strong incentive for all of us to work as reliable and transparent as possible.

*Gesundheit und Bildung Gambia e.V.* displays transparently on its website [www.gambia-verein.org](http://www.gambia-verein.org) all steps and all donations regarding not only our cooperation but all other cooperation as well.

Our website [www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com](http://www.sheikhtihami.wordpress.com) also states all cooperation and donations transparently.

## **Ownership structure, memberships and associated organisations**

### **Membership in other organisations**

Our Foundation does not hold memberships in other organisations.

### **Associated organisations**

We are not associated to other organisations.

## **Social profile**

Our Foundation is committed to the social, economic and political development of The Gambia in accordance with UN Millennium Development Goals. We particularly focus on issues of women and girls:

- The clinic is specialist in obstetrics.
- The Darra is a safe house for girls from vulnerable social groups, means poor families and/or divorced parents.
- 28 out of 36 staff members are female. We ask neither tribe nor religion upon hiring.
- Salaries are paid due to professional level and experiences. Salaries include transport allowance, food and (in case) free first aid during working hours. Promotions are subject to professional criteria, only.
- All contracts base on a 30-hours-week.
- Sick relatives (husband/ wife, children) are treated on reduced fees.