

Fatima

On 25th May, 2018, 13 year old Fatima was at home with her mother and siblings. Her father was already long dead, but by morning she would be an orphan. When the cyclone came in the middle of the night, her mother brother and sister were literally blown away. She survived by clinging to a tree until the morning.

Aisha

Aisha was heavily pregnant in May of 2018. The night Mekunu came, a massive tidal wave smashed through her house in Raysut. She managed to make a hole in the roof and climbed out. She clung on but eventually was swept away. Miraculously the waters carried her to dry ground.

On that dry ground, while people around her were struggling for life, Aisha gave birth to a healthy child. Even Mekunu could not stop life asserting itself once again amidst the chaos.

Hamza

In Salalah, a young mother struggled with her elderly father and children in the storm. The elderly man was a local fisherman called Hamza. The mother held her son by the hand and pulled him along while carrying her two year old daughter in her arms. She battled through the flood water to try and find safe ground as Hamza tried to secure his boat. All the while she was being battered by the debris being flung from near by buildings and trees. For her young daughter the struggle became too much. With the cold and fear now entrenched in her body, she turned blue and stopped breathing. Her mother faced with the most devastating situation, thought that her daughter was dead and let her body drop into the stormy waters of Mekunu to enable her to pick up and save her son.

The elderly man, some distance behind, saw the body of his granddaughter being swept by him. He abandoned his boat and picked her up and carried her with him to shelter nearby, which was in an old school building. To his surprise he discovered there was still life in this young girl, and she was in fact still alive. Against all the odds, the whole family made it to high land, and all survived the relentless storm waves and punishing heavy rains. Hamza sank onto his knees and shouted "al-Hamdu lillah!" (Praise be to God). Hamza lost his boat but saved his granddaughter from a watery grave.