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Swedish Billionaire Roger Akelius Donates 100 Million Rupiah to Children in Gaza

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AI Summary

Roger Akelius donated Rp1.2 trillion for education & basic needs of Gaza children via UNICEF and the Swedish government.

The funds will be used to build 400 schools, hire teachers, and provide food for 5 years.

More than 97% of schools in Gaza were damaged/destroyed, leaving 650,000 children without access to education for 2 years.

Swedish billionaire Roger Akelius has made international headlines after announcing a major donation to help children in the conflict-affected Gaza Strip. Through his Akelius Foundation, the property mogul donated approximately 800 million Swedish kronor (approximately US\$75–85 million, equivalent to over Rp1.2 trillion) to humanitarian programs focused on education and the basic needs of children in the region.

According to a report from the Akelius Foundation, the funds were distributed in collaboration with UNICEF and the Swedish government. Overall, the humanitarian aid package reached approximately 1.2 billion Swedish kronor after the Swedish government made an additional contribution to the program. This represents one of the largest donations ever made to a children's education program in Gaza .

Through this program, the Akelius Foundation plans to build around 400 schools for Gazan children who have been deprived of education for the past two years due to extensive damage to school infrastructure. Each school is designed to accommodate around 250 students and is equipped with learning facilities and food support for the students.

Roger Akelius explained that the project was not just about building a school, but also an effort to restore the lives of children affected by war.

"Our goal is to build schools, employ teachers, and provide daily meals for children for five years," he said in

an interview quoted on the Anadolu Agency website.

The education situation in Gaza is indeed in a state of emergency. UNICEF data shows that more than 97 percent of school facilities in the territory have been damaged or destroyed by the conflict, leaving between 650,000 and 650,000 children unable to attend school over the past two years.

Akelius believes education is the most important step in providing hope for young people in conflict zones. He believes that Gaza's children need not only the ability to read and write, but also the opportunity to experience a return to normal life after years of war.

The Akelius Foundation itself was founded in 2007 and focuses on global education programs. The organization has distributed humanitarian aid to more than 40 countries and collaborated with international organizations such as UNICEF, UNHCR, SOS Children's Villages, and Doctors Without Borders.

Roger Akelius's move immediately garnered widespread attention in the international media and on social media. Many saw the donation as an example of how the private sector can play a significant role in assisting humanitarian crises, particularly children, the most vulnerable group in armed conflict.