



## TPRF GRANT PROVIDES CLEAN WATER IN RURAL AREA OF MOROCCO

**The Prem Rawat Foundation's grant of US\$27,000 will bring clean water to the homes of 1,700 people in Al Houaz Province**

**Los Angeles, March 18, 2010**—In many rural areas of Morocco, the only source of clean water is a long walk from the communities. A grant of US\$27,000 from The Prem Rawat Foundation (TPRF) will provide pipes and the distribution sub-structure needed to bring clean water directly into the homes of the villagers of Douar Hadad, in the High Atlas mountains, south of Marrakesh.

The Association of Charity and Development of the Ourika Valley (A.B.D.B.O), recipient of the grant, works to improve living conditions of the poor rural populations in Morocco. The grant by TPRF will have a major impact on the people of Douar Hadad, where there is a severe scarcity of drinkable water since local sources are often contaminated.

The daily task of toting water from distant streams or wells — a particularly arduous task in winter — falls mostly to the female children. As a result, few manage to attend school. This situation has become a national issue. There is 90% illiteracy among girls in rural regions, contributing to a national average of 50% in a country where education is free to all through the age of 15.

TPRF's president, Linda Pascotto, observes that, "the basic provision of clean water to these families will have a major impact on their lives. The difficult journeys of the young women in search of water can now be exchanged for education, training and a brighter future."