

Sichuan Earthquake Disaster Relief

On the afternoon of 12 May 2008, a 7.9-magnitude earthquake hit Sichuan Province, a mountainous region in Western China. It left in its wake a death toll of about 70,000 people, with an additional 362,000 people injured and 21,000 people missing. Over 15 million people lived in the affected area, including almost 4 million in the city of Chengdu. A total of 64,719 bodies have been buried in Sichuan Province alone. Soldiers and medical personnel have rescued 83,988 people from debris. Around 5.46 million homes have been destroyed; an additional 5.9 million homes are seriously damaged according to official statistics from the Information Office of the State Council in Sichuan.

In this time of terrible human tragedy, Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association raised \$251,747 in 2008 from individuals, charities and the private sector towards the re-building of schools destroyed by the Sichuan Earthquake. Under the aegis of the Anxian County Government of Sichuan Province, Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association pledged to sponsor the construction of the First Central Primary School Kindergarten in Anxian County. We would like to express our gratitude to all who have felt the sorrow of the loss of lives in Sichuan and made generous donations towards the relief efforts.

Peru Earthquake Disaster Relief

15 August 2007, an 8.0-magnitude earthquake hit the central coast of Peru. The cities of Pisco, Ica and Chincha Alta in the Ica Region, and San Vicente de Cañete in the Lima Region were most affected. This earthquake left more than 500 people dead, some 655,000 people affected and nearly 140,000 homes destroyed. Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association raised \$45,774 towards relief efforts of the Peru earthquake disaster.

At the onset of the disaster, Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association donated and delivered \$10,000 in food and shelter supplies to the victims, and at a later date, collaborated with ONG Fundacion Sol, a local Peruvian charity foundation, to sponsor the building of 10 low-income housing units in the Municipality of Pisco for the victims who have been without a home. We would like to express our gratitude to all supporters and our local partner in Peru for their aid.

Myanmar Cyclone Nargis Disaster Relief

Cyclone Nargis, perhaps the greatest natural disaster in the history of Myanmar, struck the coast of the country on 2 May 2008. Moving across the Ayeyarwady Delta and then southern Yangon Division over a day and a half, the storm affected more than 7 million people, who suffered loss of family, home and livelihoods. Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association raised \$32,743 towards providing relief to the victims of the Myanmar Cyclone Nargis Disaster. The funds were applied towards the provision of school materials, such as classroom tables and benches, blackboards, cupboards, uniforms, stationeries and toilets to 12 local schools in remote mountain villages. We would like to thank The Chinese Buddhist Temple, our Myanmar partner for their efforts in identifying the village schools in need and delivering the supplies to them.