



# Back to Life

Re-sheltering of 25 Tsunami affected families in  
Ahangama west, Sri Lanka

As scheduled the final 10 houses of Back To Life Project was handed over on 09<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2009.

January known to be a busy month and due to the current Global crisis, most of our overseas donors could not participate at the handing over ceremony. Even though you could not partake we have cherished all the special moments to share with you.

So Here Is The News.....



Houses of Third & the final stage

## Ceremony Began.....



Gratitude of the Villagers were expressed with this pandol to welcome



Parade organized by the recipients to welcome the donors and the team that dedicated there precious time for the project.

Another way that they expressed gratitude was by organizing all children of recipients to receive the guest, offering flowers and a sheaf of Beatles in the traditional way.

After the warm welcome by the villagers, lighting of the traditional oil lamp took place.



Mr. Nilmin Nanayakkara lighting the oil lamp



In the absence of other donors, members of the Board of Directors of NKAR Travels & Tours (Pvt) Ltd lighting the oil lamp

Thereafter boiling the traditional pot of milk as a custom was done at an auspicious time. Significance of boiling one pot of milk by recipients is to show unity amongst the neighbors.



Recipients pouring milk to boil the pot of milk



Boiling of the pot of milk



As per Sri Lankan traditions milk is boiled until it over flows depicting prosperity

Next item of the Agenda was addressing the villagers who came to witness the event by our Managing Director and the two of the members of the NKAR Board of Directors.



Mr. Nilmin Nanayakkara addressing the villagers and recipients



Mr. Hema Kumara Nanayakkara - Board member, MP of Galle District & Minister of Agriculture & Who is also the Brother of Mr. Nilmin Nanayakkara addressing the villagers.



Mrs Swarna Meegama - Board member, Sister of Mr. Nilmin Nanayakkara & Groups secretary addressing the villagers.

All houses in the Back To Life village are provided with Tube well water and even services good attach toilets. Interestingly Agriculture Minister Mr. Hema Kumara Nanayakkara at the ceremony promised to get all the houses water from the main lines at the expenses of the government. He further promised to provide with high bread of fruits & vegetable plants to all house holds.

Thereafter religious ceremony began....



Bringing the casket of relics dedicating the arms giving to Lord Buddha



Washing the feet of the Buddhist Monks as per the traditions



Audience during the time of Monks chanting Pirith to evoke blessings to all the houses and the completed project.



Serving arms (dane) to the Buddhist Monks by the Family, supporting and appreciating the Project



Mr. Nilmin Nanayakkara offering pirikara (gifts of appreciation) to the Head Monk.



Recipients of houses at the request of the organizers offered Pirikara (gifts of appreciation) to all the Monks.

All deeds had to be signed by Four Directors as the land of Back To Life was originally purchased in the name of NKAR Travels & Tours (Pvt) Ltd.



Mr. Nilmin Nanayakkara & his three brothers signing the deeds.



Mr. Sunil Charles giving Vote of thanks

Vote of thanks was given by the Vice Principal of the village school Rohana Maha Vidyalaya. He also went on to praise Back To Life project for helping the school with the following.

- Instruments for the school Western band
- Uniforms for the band
- Steel cupboards for the school
- PA System
- Printers and Computers
- A Fixed Deposit worth of LKR 150,000/- to pay the monthly school telephone bill from the interest receive.

The Rohana Maha Vidyalaya school project was sponsored by :

- A Tour operator in UK - The Adventure Company
- Brentano-Grundschule in Germany
- School in Kunzelsau in Germany



Our special thanks to the following institutions for shouldering a substantial cost of the Project.

- Friends of conservation in UK (Charity arm of EXODUS Travels)
- Djoser Germany
- Djoser Holland
- Anslouz
- Regenbogen Nuch



The ceremony ended with lots of thanks from the villagers for offering a nutritious meal for over 150 villagers.

Back To Life also take this opportunity to extend thanks to all donors who made this dream of Tsunami effected people a reality.

**Name List with addresses of Recipients who received houses from the final stage.**



Mr. Chandana Kumara,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 06,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.



Mrs. Hema Kanthi Gunawadena,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 07,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.



Mr. Susantha Pradeep Kumara,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 08,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.



Mrs. H. Y. Chandrakanthi,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 09,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.



**Mrs. Jeewani Priyanthika,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 10,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.**



**Mrs. Unawatuna Hewage Shanthi,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 11,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.**



**Mrs. Rasanjalee Chandrathilaka,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 12,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.**



**Mrs. Chandrika Priyanthi,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 13,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.**



Mr. Piyal Rathnasiri,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 14,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.



Mrs. Himali Wedage,  
“Back To Life”,  
No 15,  
Walhengoda,  
Ahangama.

You are free to correspond with these recipients but be cautious of their sad stories and perhaps comments of some short comings of the project in order to get sympathy and to get more help from you. **Best is to see the houses yourself when you are in Sri Lanka to be satisfied about the project.**

## Thank You!

### Back To Life in stages

- Step One - Construction support for 04 Tsunami effected families (Partly damaged houses) to rebuild their houses in their own lands.
- Step Two - Construction & handing over 11 houses to 11 Tsunami effected families.
- Step Three - Construction & handing over 10 houses to 10 Tsunami effected families.

Dear Donors,

I have personally spent a lot of time and support to work this a reality. Some of the appointed staff of NKAR Travels & Tours & INSIGHT Resort too have given their precious time and support. You as donors have also done a lot for the project.

I would personally like to hear your honest views with regard to completion of this project and the long time taken to finishing. Please mail us back with your comments.

**Nilmin Nanayakkara**

Project Director & The Managing Director of NKAR Travels & Tours (Pvt) Ltd & INSIGHT Resort.

Back to Life

NKAR Housing Initiative for Tsunami affected.

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