

NEWSLETTER

June 2017

WONDERFUL NEWS!!!

At the end of last year, sister Amatha informed us that the 'Congregation' had been donated a piece of land. She requested that we should look into the possibilities for building a new orphanage on this lot. After extensive discussions and calculations, we decided to have our fourth orphanage built! It will be erected in Ja-Ela, a small village not far from Colombo in Sri Lanka. Now, in the meantime, the building of our **FOURTH ORPHANAGE** has already started!!! We are incredibly pleased that we can help sister Amatha to take on and take care of even more children and offer them a better life and future.



In Sri Lanka, there are still many children living on the streets or in hopeless situations. And as well as receiving an extensive gift, we have ourselves been able to save and acquire some more funds. All of which made it possible for us to fulfil sister Amatha's wishes! We are still a little way short of the full amount needed, but we are confident that we will also be able to acquire the necessary amount.



It goes without saying that your help will be gratefully appreciated!



FLOODS AND DROUGHT:

A couple of weeks ago, we were shocked to learn of the incredibly heavy level of rainfall which caused flooding and landslides across Sri Lanka. Fortunately our children remained safe. The Kelaniya orphanage experienced some slight flooding in the garden due to the river bursting its banks. The local houses located on the riverbanks, however, took quite a lot of water. To support the local people who had lost everything and had nothing to eat, the sisters prepared some rice. And together with the children, they took the food to those in need. This way, the children also learn to share with those who have less than them.



On Sunday 11th June, we received an e-mail from sister Amatha with a distress call. "In Katupotha, where our second orphanage is located, there is no more water due to the drought in that particular area!" They had to buy bottles of water for the children to drink, and for cooking. This was of course, extremely expensive. If they could not arrange a steady water supply, the children would have to be accommodated elsewhere, which also meant that they would not be able to



attend school. We were quite shocked by this news. No water.....! We could hardly believe it, it's more or less inconceivable for us.

In the meantime, sister Amatha had been in contact with an engineer who could drill a bore hole in the ground, through a layer of stone, to reach water again. (Of course, it's a bit more complicated than that!). But to have this drilling done she would need quite a lot of money: 2000 euros. Could we possibly help? Luckily we were able to assist!! We had just received a splendid sum from a school here that had carried out several activities to



generate funds on our behalf.

The engineers immediately went to work on it and two days later, they had a fresh water supply again! Fantastic!

We were absolutely delighted that we were able to help the sisters in this way. And not to forget, we can only do it because of your support!!



FESTIVALS

Poya Day: last month Buddhists celebrated the day that that Buddha arrived in Sri Lanka. In our orphanages there are also a number of Buddhist children, and they also took part in the festivities.



New Year's Festival:

Mid-April is the date of the Tamil New Year in Sri Lanka and this was also celebrated.



Birthdays:

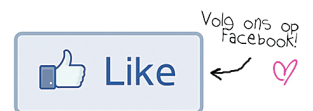
Is it your birthday? This cannot be celebrated without a lovely cake! And there will be singing and dancing!



POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS:

Would you like to know more about our orphanages and Sri Lanka?

Just let us know, and we will be pleased to come and offer you a Power Point presentation.



Should you like to read more and see more photo's...
simply go to our website: www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl

With kind regards,



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