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NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

SITUATION IN SRI LANKA:

A new president was elected in September 2024: Anura Kumara Disanayake, from the JVP, which stands for People's Liberation Front. This unexpected victory makes it clear that the Sri Lankan voters no longer supported the previous president. All hope is now pinned on the new president, who has also promised to tackle corruption, cronyism and human rights violations. After his inauguration, he immediately warned: "I am not a magician". We hope for a better future for all the people in Sri Lanka.

RAIN & FLOODS:

Since the beginning of November, the weather in Sri Lanka has been extremely bad. Due to the heavy rainfall, there have been many floods and landslides. Many people have lost their homes and belongings. There have also been floods in Kelaniya. In our home, there has been damage to the roof and in the bathrooms because the water no longer drains away, causing a foul smell. This is also the problem in Katupotha. In Katupotha a window was blown apart, causing considerable leakage inside. Fortunately, this has been resolved. There was also a heavy storm there in Katupotha. In the Pamunugama region there has been constant rain all year round. There are now problems with the roof and house is surrounded by water. The home in Ja Ela has not suffered any damage so far. The sisters help the poor people who have lost everything, as much as they can. The weather is still bad in Sri Lanka. The schools are closed due to the storm.



LOOKING BACK:

Almost a year has passed again. Fortunately, everything went well in the homes. Birthdays were celebrated, the children went to school, and transition exams were done, with good results. The sisters organised all kinds of fun things for the children. The new girls have been completely accepted into the homes and feel nicely at home. Very nice! The oldest girls were given good sewing assignments, and they made, among other things, beautiful dresses for the girls. Sister Amatha "played" hairdresser, and made the girls look prettier. Two sisters, who work and study in Italy, came back to Sri Lanka for 2 months, and they enjoyed that very much. We attended various markets in the course of the year, and sold quite a lot of goods for a substantial amount.



"40 YEARS"

In October it was 40 years ago that Sister Amatha took her monastic vows. What an incredible amount of good work she has done in those past years. For our children, but also for so many other people and children. She has also trained and guided many girls to become nuns. We have a deep admiration and respect for her.



CHRISTMAS GIFT:

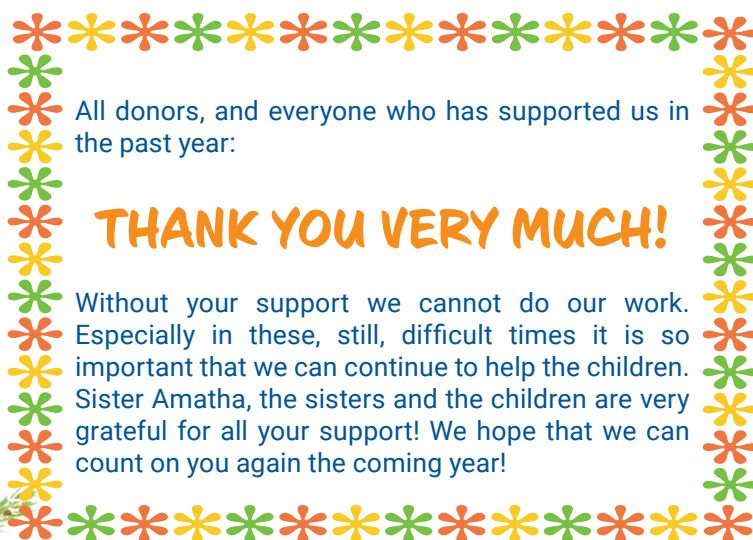
We are pleased that we are again able to give a Christmas gift this year. With it they can buy the school supplies, cups and lunch boxes, etc., for the new school year, and a small Christmas present for each child. This will be handed out by Santa Claus himself.



LOOKING AHEAD:

The children have started the Christmas celebration preparations. It is still questionable whether they will all be able to celebrate Christmas together. Many roads have become impassable.

We hope and plan to go on a working visit in January/February 2025, and look forward to seeing and speaking to the children and the sisters again.



All donors, and everyone who has supported us in the past year:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Without your support we cannot do our work. Especially in these, still, difficult times it is so important that we can continue to help the children. Sister Amatha, the sisters and the children are very grateful for all your support! We hope that we can count on you again the coming year!

We wish you all a

Happy Christmas

and the Best Wishes for

2025



With kind regards. the board:

Chairman
Elsbeth Sanderse- van den Berg

Secretary
Tanja Uitterhoeve- Geene

Treasurer
Jos Uitterhoeve

Board member
Eljo Gubbels - Heijnsdijk

Our four children's homes in
Sri Lanka are situated in:

↑ Pamunugama

↑ Katupotha

↑ Kelaniya

↑ Ja Ela