

The Fund for help (or relief) and solace to the poor. Activity Report for 2009

Dear fellow practitioners and other benefactors,

Since the creation of the Fund by Master Tam in 1998, we have received continuous support from all practitioners and kind hearted individuals from all over the world. We would like to report our activities for 2009 as followed:

1. Qui-Nhon City: KH hamlet, CT village:

Aid to Flood Victims:

- Rebuild 2 houses damaged by the 2008 flood.
- Help 5 families repair 5 houses which lost their roof in 2008.
- Help rebuild a house leveled by the recent Mirinae storm in 2009, while the lady of the home was in her last phase of pregnancy.

Aid to Needy People:

- Save 7 families from debts and slavery.
- Provide food and clothing on a monthly basis to 34 individuals from 2 lists (19+15=34).

Support Needy Children:

- Support 33 needy children named on 2 lists (11, and 22 children) so they can continue their education and save them from excessive child labor.



-----Picture taken at Phù-Cát – Qui-Nhon

2. HCM City:

- Support the education of orphans: 2 students going to Higher School of Accounting and 1 to Business Management College.

3. Binh-Duong City:

- In 2009, sponsor about 320 deaf-mute students in Binh Duong. This location has been receiving our monthly support for many years. Fellow practitioners going to Viet Nam will see that this place is very well organized and neat. (1000USD/mo).

4. Continuation of Grant program to help poor students avoid dropping out of school.

- help 18 high school and elementary students, 10 in An Giang City & 8 in Bắc Ninh City.
- help 20 elementary students in Đồng Nai city, from very poor families with a single parent or parents who are disabled and cannot afford to send them to school.
- help 18 scholl girls of the 2nd grade and 17 students of the 1st grade in Châu Đốc, Kinh Xang parish, a poor parish located far away from the state route, of about 30 km, accessible by ferry and 2 bridges, near the Vietnamese/Cambodian frontier.



5. Gia-Lai - KonTum City:

- The aid to the handicaps, the lonesome elderly, the students from poor families or with deceased parents, living in Gia Lai KonTum, was delivered through the Sisters of St Paul.
- Also helped the Sisters construct a building for bible study in order to protect students from the rain and cold when study is conducted outdoors.

6. Aid to ethnic children's education, room and board

- The aid was delivered to 20 poor students of the Mangla tribe, from 8th to 12th grade, through a sister who used to teach at the Couvent des Oiseaux in the past, and a Catholic priest. The children stayed as interns at the Sisters' facility and we paid about 200,000 đVN (about \$11.00 US) that included lunch and diner. The 2009 aid was \$2000.US.

7. Aid to newborns abandoned at the front porch of the pagoda.

- The BT pagoda raised infants abandoned at birth in CT. The number of these children increased very rapidly.

- Currently there are 39 children under 5 years old and 18 older than 6. The Buddhist Nun took good care of them, some are very smart and went to college.

We sent them money to pay for milk, groceries, tuitions and often, for the repair of their living quarters.



8. Aid to the lonesome elderly

- Provided to the Sisters' Nursing Home a monthly amount of \$200.US for supplemental food and laundry detergent.

- The LQ pagoda nursing home is very poor, the aid was of \$1000.US.

- Provided \$150.US/month to 6 old and poor Sisters, unable to work, for their food and medications.

9. Sending money directly to recipients

- When there are practitioners going to VN, and depending on funds being available, we send financial aid to poor people living in remote locations.

10. Distribution of rice, instant noodle, salt etc. to the poor

- In **Cần Thơ**: each of 300 poor families received 10 kg of rice, 1/2kg of sugar, 1 bottle of soy sauce, 1 kg of salt and 5 instant noodles.

- Provided financial aid to the A-Can Tho Social Aid Agency to buy rice for the orphans, the transients. Due to the 2009 degrading economy, the aids from other non-profit agencies had decreased....

- In **Bến Tre**, we distributed rice to poor families at the CM, TT and TM hamlets.



11. The Free Medicine Cabinet:

- Monthly distribution to the poor people in Bến Tre – \$100.US

- This year, at 3 hamlets in Ben Tre, CM, T T, T H, after the rain there was a pandemic of “bloody fever”, many children were infected and had bloody rash all over their body. Parents are mostly very poor, not having enough food to eat. The Sisters requested \$500.US to save them from death.

- In flood areas like Da Nang, people including small children had severe eye diseases that need immediate attention. We offered \$500.US for eye drops and antibiotics. Therefore, the number of patients dropped significantly. On behalf of those people, the Sisters send their deepest thanks.

- At the school for handicapped children where many students were infected, the Sisters also asked for medicine money.

- We distributed medicine to areas affected by Cholera (\$400.US).

- Provide medicine money to a poor child and a Catholic priest, victim of cancer (\$2000.00 US).

12. Distributed paper books to students who cannot afford to buy them in Bến Tre - (\$600 US)

13. Helped practitioners or families of poor, sick people having a hard time, who had asked for assistance from Master Tam, or from VoVi Associations.

14. Aid to flood victims of central Vietnam:

- Help flood victims of the cities of Đà Nẵng, Huế, Kontum, Qui Nhon, Phú Yên, Bình Định, via the Sisters who went to the remote locations, bringing rice, noodles, cooking oil, seasonings...to the starving victims.



- In Đà Nẵng, besides food, they also received clothes.
- In Huế we helped fix the living quarter of the elderly and the old Sisters, after it was severely damaged by the storm.







15. **Help buy caskets for dead people who would be buried without.** In 2009, the aid was of \$2000.US.

- We distributed 54 caskets in Sóc Trăng, Cà Mau and HCM city.

16. **Continuation of the ADAPT program** (An giang Dong thap Alliance for the Prevention of Trafficking) (website adaptvietnam.org)

- help prevent the daughters of poor families from being sold to Cambodia (\$2500.US in 2009).

17. **Assist the Free Cataract Surgery Program of Mr Lạc (\$1500.US in 2009)**

(Mr Lạc reported routinely)

All of the money we received were reported on the Tuần Báo Phát Triển Điện Năng (quỹ cứu khổ ban vui) and spent at 100% for the poor and miserable people.

If you have any concern, please contact the undersigned.

The miserable poor recipients of your generous donations respectfully thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Phan Cao Thăng

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