

WORLD

21st June 2009

Refugee

SUNDAY

Manik Farm, Sri Lanka is now home to more than 300,000 refugees (Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (iDMC) web report as of the 4th of June 2009). People just like you and me. But there is one difference. They have lost more than any of us could imagine...

An elderly woman sits alone on the bare ground. One can only imagine what is going through her mind. Maybe it's her family that is no longer with her or maybe it is her home, that which she knows will not be standing if and when she goes back to her village.

Children run to and fro, their play times constantly interrupted as they run towards the shade to stop their little feet from burning. The dry and scorched ground makes it nearly impossible to walk or sit on the ground during day time.

Families look through the barbed wire towards the clearings away from the camp, little children look on, wondering if their loved ones would come join them. Many families were separated as they fled from intense fighting.

The 30 year conflict has ended. A nation rejoices. But for these families the next stage of their struggles has just begun. As they wait to return to be relocated and begin their lives over again, they look towards those humanitarian agencies that have given of themselves to feed and cloth them.

The Manik Farm Ramanathan Emergency Transit Camp which is situated in Chettikulam, Vavuniya has been separated into four zones. The Alliance Development Trust (ADT) is working in Zone 2 and 4 (4C) which is currently home to 10,245 persons. ADT staff work round the clock to provide food and see to the needs of each of these people.

World Refugee Sunday is on the 21st of June 2009. NCEASL invites you all to unite in prayer. In our churches and home cells, sunday schools and youth fellowships;

PRAY

Let us say a special prayer for our brothers and sisters, our mothers, our fathers and our children who are in these transit camps.

Pray for healing, for reconciliation, for reconstruction of lives and homes, for renewed hope and strength to face the days which are ahead.

HELP

On Refugee Sunday, let's help to rebuild their lives, by giving this Sunday's offering towards this worthy cause.

Contributions can be sent via cheques drawn in favour of "Alliance Development Trust".

Let's join together with the world this day in prayer; in prayer for those who have lost everything they called their own.



*Images courtesy of guardian.co.uk

"IF MY PEOPLE, WHICH ARE CALLED BY MY NAME SHALL HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY, AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS; THEN WILL I HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN, AND WILL HEAL THEIR LAND".

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

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