

Urgent Relief for a Cambodian Temple and Village Devastated by War

An appeal from Ven. Chhan Vanthy, a Cambodian monk who, after studying in Sri Lanka for ten years, returned to become the abbot of his temple.

I am currently residing in Oddar Meanchey Province, along the border with Thailand. At present, the area where I live has been classified as a red zone or high-risk conflict area due to ongoing border clashes with Thailand. In December 2025, during an invasion by Thai troops, our monastery came under direct attack. Intense shelling caused severe damage to my quarters, the monks' residences, the dining hall, and the monastery school. Most of the monks fled, but three other monks and I tried to stay at the monastery. Finally, we were also forced to flee and spent one month surviving in the forest.

In addition, many buildings in the village, as well as much of the infrastructure, were also heavily damaged. The village has not yet returned to normal. This situation has caused severe hardship, and daily life is extremely difficult and unsafe. Most villagers have fled their homes. Some are now living in refugee camps in the neighboring Siem Reap Province, but about 100 families are surviving in tents near the monastery. They all live in constant fear. There are severe shortages of food, clean water, and all essential supplies. We monks, who traditionally depend on the community for support, now find ourselves in the position of caring for these villagers.

Because of these severe and ongoing hardships, I humbly and respectfully appeal to all compassionate individuals, donors, and humanitarian organizations to kindly offer assistance in any way possible, according to your ability, to help relieve the suffering of Buddhist monks and poor civilians who are victims of this border conflict.

Your kindness and generosity are not only forms of material support, but also a powerful source of hope, encouragement, and dignity for those who are living through fear, hardship, and despair.

May all donors be blessed with peace, happiness, and prosperity.



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Donations may also be made

in Sri Lanka via:
Commercial Bank,
Anniwatte Branch
A/C 8254001210
Kenneth Kawasaki

in the U.S. via:
River Bank & Trust
Buddhist Relief Mission
A/C 262527856
ABA Code: 062206567

In case of a bank deposit, please send donor's name and the amount of the donation by SMS or WhatsApp to +94-77-964-9292 or by email to buddhist@brelief.org

For international bank transfer, please send a request for instructions.



Buddhist Relief Mission

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Dana for World Peace

Anniwatte, Kandy, Sri Lanka

Sri Lankan Independence Day

February 4, 2026



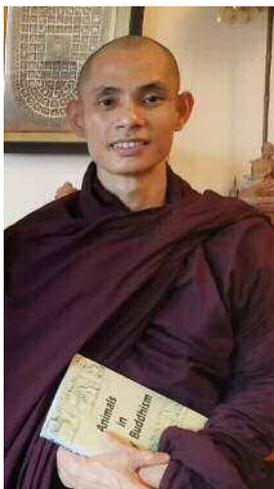
Inspired by the deeply moving monk's Walk for Peace across the United States, Buddhist Relief Mission held a dana for world peace and to share merit with the victims of the recent cyclone disaster in Sri Lanka, of all the wars raging around the world, and of the genocides of the Rohingya and the Palestinians, and with refugees everywhere. We also shared merit with friends suffering from illness and all of our departed friends and relatives. Dana was offered to four monks and three nuns. On that day, eight countries—Austria, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Uganda, the UK, the USA, and Vietnam—were represented. Ven. Dhammarakkhita (Uganda) gave a Dhamma lesson, pointing out that the primary cause of war is anger, which must be subdued and abandoned whenever it arises. Ven. Ratana Nanda (Bangladesh) taught that dana, properly offered, can lead to rebirth in the Brahma Heavens. The anthuriums gracing the altar were a gift from Ven. Nanda (Sri Lanka).



In response to our recent appeal, Buddhist Relief Mission has received \$675, which has been sent to Ven. Chhan Vanthy in Cambodia. In appreciation, he sent the following message:

I have received the money. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all donors and supporters who helped raise and provide financial assistance to us during this difficult time of war. We are deeply thankful for the generous contribution, which has brought meaningful support and encouragement to those affected. Your kindness and compassion have given us hope and strength in hardship. We truly appreciate your support and goodwill.

Click the photo on the right to access a short video with chanting at the temple in Cambodia.



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Donations may also be made



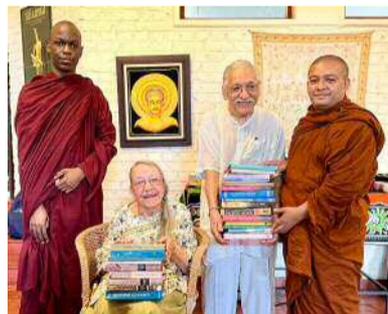
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Buddhist Relief Mission is a small organization. We can't organize grand projects. We can't dispense grants of hundreds of thousands, or even tens of thousands, of dollars. Nevertheless, we are happy that, with neither a proper office nor a paid staff, we are able, because of the support from generous friends and donors and by cooperating with local groups, to make a difference that matters, in places in need around the globe. We extend our deepest gratitude to all those who have joined us in carrying out this meritorious work over the past forty years. Sadhu! Sadhu!! Sadhu!!!



For the past fifty years, we have built an extensive library of Buddhist books. With our failing eyesight, it is difficult for us to make use of them now. We invited the monks and nuns to peruse the library. Several of them found many books which we were happy to give them to keep. What great joy to be able to offer these books to the Sangha for their study!



Buddhist Relief Mission

www.brelief.org – buddhist@brelief.org
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Buddhist Relief Mission's Ongoing Activities in 2026



Food to Families and Needy Individuals



Support for Schools and Orphanages



Support for the Sangha



Joining Relief Activities of the Sri Lanka Cancer Society

These are some of the projects which we will be continuing this year. Your donations will help Buddhist Relief Mission carry out these programs—providing food, medicine, and other essentials to families, students, schools, monasteries, hospitals, and other institutions in Sri Lanka; offering support to monks and nuns; assisting refugees; and responding to disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and war, worldwide.

Thank you for your generous support!
Sadhu! Sadhu!! Sadhu!!!



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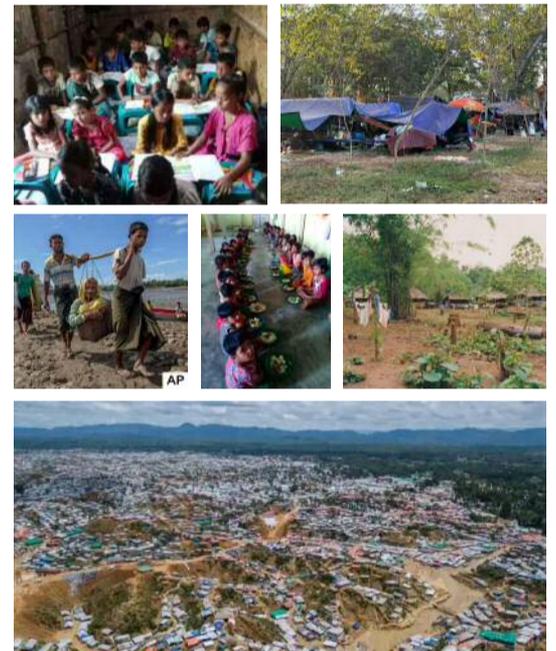
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Generosity brings happiness at every stage. –*Buddhism*
It is better to give than to receive. –*Christianity*
You will never attain happiness until you have given from that which you love. –*Islam*
When we lift something to give to another, we ourselves are lifted. –*Judaism*



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Support for Refugees Worldwide



Disaster Relief



Methasevana Youth Rehabilitation Center