



FREE-DOM *n.* {free-duhm} ~1. THE STATE OF BEING FREE *or* AT LIBERTY RATHER THAN IN CONFINEMENT *or* UNDER PHYSICAL RESTRAINT. ~&

FULL-NESS *adj.* {fool-ness} ~1. TO BE COMPLETELY FILLED; CONTAINING ALL THAT CAN BE HELD; FILLED TO CAPACITY: A FULL CUP.

 *Burma*
>60,280,000 LIVES



~March Issue 2013



FREE, FULL LIVES FOR THE CHILDREN OF BURMA

OUR VISION

For those of us who live in the Western World, we get to live a free and full life, (in principle and in reality), where choices and opportunities abound. We are rarely, if ever, faced with the knowledge that it could all end, that it could be taken away. We have a hope that extends to future generations to come.

The fact is though, that for most children in Burma, freedom and fullness are concepts too far away to grasp or ever hope for. Many will never know a different reality than one of oppression, terror and loss.

For us, this group of ordinary people who make up Partners Relief & Development, that reality is simply not ok. We believe with every fiber of our being, that we are here to tell the world what is happening to these dear souls, and to help change their reality; to bring forth God's intention for all of His children, a liberation and fullness of life –

to

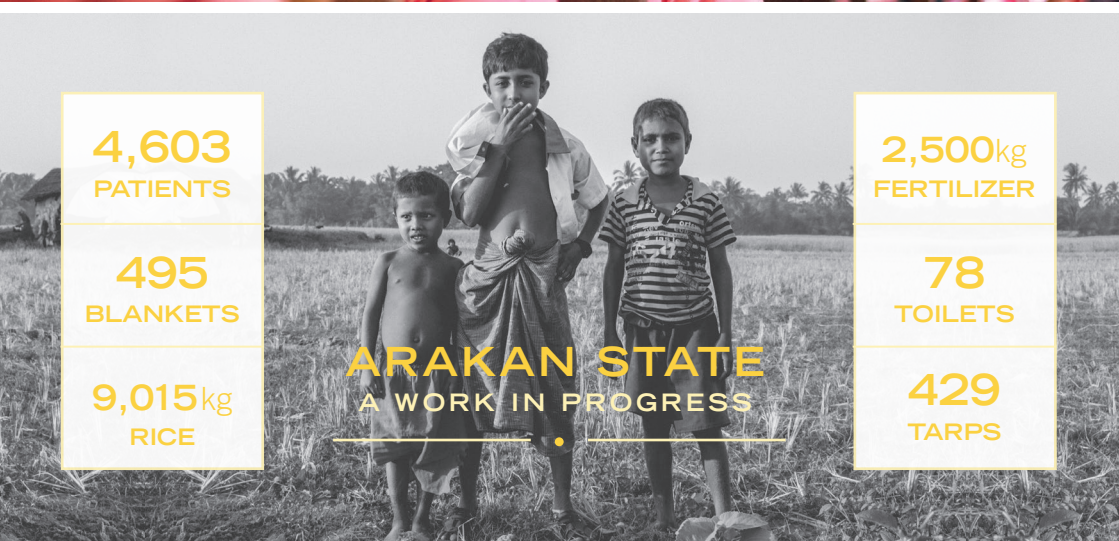
"BESTOW BEAUTY INSTEAD OF ASHES, GLADNESS INSTEAD OF MOURNING, & PRAISE INSTEAD OF DESPAIR."

ISAIAH 61:1-3

That is our hope for this year and for the years to come, for the people of Burma. That is why we do the work that we do for these children who deserve every opportunity that has been kept from them. That is the heart, soul and intention that we put into each of our programs.



Caring for beautiful
KAREN CHILDREN
in refugee camps along the
Thai-Burma border.



4,603
PATIENTS

495
BLANKETS

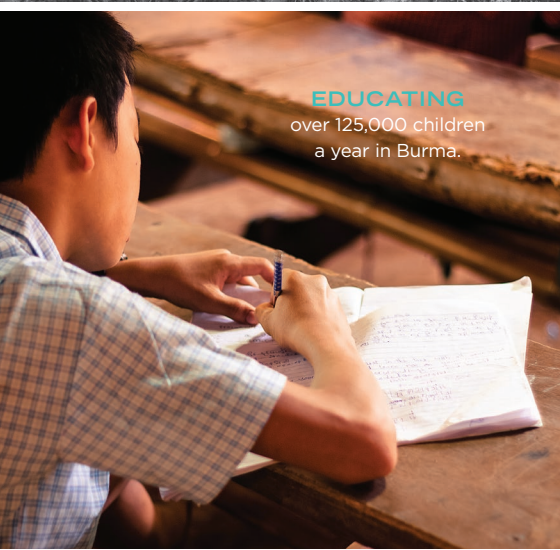
9,015kg
RICE

2,500kg
FERTILIZER

78
TOILETS

429
TARPS

ARAKAN STATE
A WORK IN PROGRESS



EDUCATING
over 125,000 children
a year in Burma.



HELPING MIGRANT
communities with hygiene,
health & wellness

ARAKAN STATE UPDATE

A SAVAGE LAND



Janath, 10, and Alima, 13 (not their real names), thought they did the only right thing by grabbing their baby brother when they ran for their lives, away from those who were destroying their village and killing everybody in sight with their spears. But in the chaos and pandemonium, they lost sight of their mother, and she of them! They ran for the ocean, which was the only direction they could run. It occurred to them as they were standing by the shore—together with the rest of their village, every one of them, more terrified than they had ever been, all wondering if they would still be alive by nightfall—where their mom was, and whether she had seen that they were holding their brother?



It was but seconds later they heard screams from the voice they knew so well. The screams were from a person pleading for her life. They knew in that instant that the attackers had taken their mother, and that they would never again see her.

Their mother had run back for her baby. She did not know that her daughters already carried him. As soon as she entered the village compound, now ablaze, the men in uniforms and with swords in their hands saw her and showed no mercy. She was brutally hacked to death, and then they threw her body into the flames that slowly ate what was once her home.

**THE ROHINGYA ARE
A DEHUMANIZED
& PERSECUTED
MINORITY IN BURMA.**

**>40,000
ROHINGYA
CHILDREN
ARE DEPRIVED
OF RIGHTS TO
TRAVEL, GO TO
SCHOOL OR TO
MARRY IN THE
FUTURE.**

**800,000
ROHINGYA
ARE DENIED
FUNDAMENTAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
& FREEDOMS.**

BY ODDNY GUMAER

I sat with Janath, Alima and their baby brother in a tent in a temporary camp in Sittwe, Arakan State just a few weeks ago. Their faces were serious, a natural manifestation of the unspeakable trauma they were going through. Not even when they got to see a photo of themselves on the screen of my digital camera did they break a smile. They are now left to survive on their own in the camp, together with thousands of others who all had similar stories.

Right now there are an estimated 100,000 Rohingya refugees in Western Burma's Arakan State. These people are living a sub-human existence. They live each day as if the reality of their lives is of no consequence to the rest of the world. Most of them are living in makeshift camps without proper shelter, sanitation, or any access to medical care, and with almost no food. Add to that the reality that the monsoon season is just months away; and the fact that they are completely without any protection from the attackers who already have killed so many, and destroyed their villages.

Partners is one of the few aid organizations in the area, providing relief to as many of these refugees as we are able to, with our limited resources. For the past two months, we have been sending in relief teams to the frontlines to provide critical medical care, shelter, blankets and food, and to build desperately needed latrines and water pumps.

We hope against hope that more funds will come in so we can continue to save lives. That is where we need your help and partnership so critically at this time. Please let the Rohingya know they are not forgotten by the rest of humanity, by giving to our efforts to bring relief and love to those that are suffering in this country.



YOU CAN HELP. GIVE TODAY!

WWW.PARTNERSWORLD.ORG/ARAKAN-RELIEF

help SOMEONE *a contest*

AND THE WINNER is...

Pete Rhodes-Robinson

{YOUTH PASTOR OF ONSLOW COMMUNITY CHURCH, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND}

With the help of his 'Burma Buds' Ashleigh and Matilda and his awesome Youth Group who diligently raised funds for Partners all year. **THEY RAISED AN IMPRESSIVE \$3512.50**

thank you for buying gifts...

MADE WITH LOVE



SHINE A LIGHT



SUPPORT A SCHOOL



RICE FOR LIFE



HYGIENE PACKS



ANIMALS ON THE FARM



MEDICINE



YOU CAN NOW DOWNLOAD OUR MAGAZINE FOR YOUR IPAD
MAGAZINE.PARTNERSWORLD.ORG

DIRECTOR'S DESK



Greetings,

This is the first magazine of 2013. We're trying something different this year; you will note that it has a new format. I hope you will find it interesting and informative.

In the United States the new year often brings a sense of renewal. Many of us make New Year's resolutions and with some effort are able to keep a few. If we've just come through a bad year we are hopeful the new year will be a good one. If we had a good year we hope the new will be better still.

For the ethnic people in Burma, they too wish for a better year, but in many cases these wishes involve life or death. For the Kachin people there was a brief glimmer of hope with an agreement to a ceasefire between the Burma Army and the Kachin Independence Army. But it was just that: a glimmer of hope which disappeared with renewed attacks by the Burma Army. In recent months, we have seen the fighting escalate with the Burma Army's use of jets and helicopter gunships to bomb their targets. Of course the inevitable happened, and bombs fell on innocent civilians.

In the Arakan State of western Burma, the Rohingya people are being victimized by what can only be described as "ethnic cleansing" as imposed by the Rakhine people, complicit with the Burmese government. Partners is one of very few relief agencies able to gain access to over 100,000 Rohingya. Food and shelter are scarce and medical care even more so. Obviously, with this number of victims, the need far outweighs the scope of Partners' capabilities to assist them. There is currently a desperate need for doctors and nurses who are willing to invest their time and efforts to help these people who are living under precarious circumstances. If you are a doctor or nurse, would you be willing to give two weeks of your time? Or if you know one, could you share this urgent need with them?

In recent months, I have been blessed by talking and interacting with people who have contributed, sometimes sacrificially, to our relief efforts in the Kachin and Arakan States. I mentioned earlier that many of these ethnic people are dealing with life or death issues. It is no overstatement to say that if you donated to Partners in the past year, you are literally saving someone's life. You, the donors (previous, current and future), need to know that you are deeply appreciated and vital to the work being done in Burma.

If you have any questions or wish to become involved with Partners either financially or as a volunteer, please feel free to contact me personally.

Blessings,
Andy

Andrew Pasma, National Director
andy@partnersworld.org
Telephone: 616.450.8280



Partners Relief & Development
PO Box 912418
Denver, Colorado

info@partnersworld.org
www.partnersworld.org

Change Service Requested

OUR VISION Free, full lives for the children of Burma

CONTRIBUTORS Oddny Gumaer, I-man Uyeda

PHOTOGRAPHY Stephen Spurlock, Sacha Olson, Brad Hazlett

EDITOR I-man Uyeda **DESIGN** Sacha Olson

Partners Relief & Development is a registered charity in the USA, Canada, UK, Australia, Norway, New Zealand and Thailand

FIELD OFFICES Chiang Mai and Mae Sot, Thailand

NORWAY

Partners Norway

Staffeldtsgate 4

0166 Oslo

Norway

Telephone +4799 301 919

info@partnersnorge.no

www.partnersnorge.no

CANADA

Partners Relief & Development

33130 Springbank Road

Calgary, Alberta T3Z 2L9

Canada

Telephone 403 242 7903

info@partnersworld.ca

www.partnersworld.ca

NEW ZEALAND

Partners Relief & Development NZ

PO Box 40284

Upper Hutt 5018

New Zealand

Telephone 027 587 2865

info@partnersworld.org.nz

www.partnersworld.org.nz

USA

Partners Relief & Development

PO Box 912418

Denver, Colorado 80291-2418

USA

Telephone 909 748 5810

info@partnersworld.org

www.partnersworld.org

AUSTRALIA

Partners Relief & Development

PO Box 4117

Narre Warren Sth VIC 3805

Australia

Telephone +61 3 9013 7676

info@partnersworld.org.au

www.partnersworld.org.au

UK

Partners Relief & Development UK

PO Box 557

Mexborough

S63 3EN

Telephone +44 (0) 1709 578904

info@partnersworld.org.uk

www.partnersworld.org.uk

SUBSCRIPTIONS For a free subscription to Partners magazine and for information on how you can help us in our mission, please contact us.

NONPROFIT STATUS NOTICE Partners Relief & Development (Partners) is a nonprofit organization with a 501(c) (3) federal tax exempt status. Any contributions given to PRAD are tax deductible for U.S. taxpayers.