



# THE RĀHULA TRUST

(Child Sponsorship Programme)

Registered Charity No. 1075742

**2005 - 2006**

## PROGRESS REPORT FOR 2006

Dear Supporters,

**W**e are very happy to inform you that the Rahula Trust had another successful year, but very sad to announce the passing away of the chairman of the Rahula Trust, Most Ven. Vajiragnana Nayaka Thera on 15 December 2006. He was an inspiration for the Rahula Trust right from its inception nine years ago. Even though he had been in poor health for three years, he maintained a keen interest in the Trust and its work. We are all greatly saddened by his passing.

The number of children in Sri Lanka whom we are sponsoring has increased to 320. Some of the children whom we sponsored from 1998 have sat for the GCE Ordinary level examination and passed with high grades. They are now studying Advanced level classes. In Nepal we have increased sponsorship by 13 more children in Nepal, making a total of 33. We are also continuing to support two children in Kenya, who are now at college.

We have made significant contributions to different educational projects in Sri Lanka and Nepal. Fuller details

are given elsewhere in this newsletter, but we should like to highlight a few of our achievements. We contributed £3000.00 to a SERVE project for its computer centre which is mostly used by Tsunami-affected children in Uswatta. For Prithipura Community, Wattala, the Rahula Trust donated £1679.00 for a project to develop children's education. £3416.00 was donated for the development of the library in the Viharamahadevi Girls Home. This included the purchase of books and cupboards for the books. Mr. Tom Kariyawasam visited the Home and oversaw the donation of the necessary books and cupboards. £2000.00 was donated to the Women's Welfare Society in Tawalama to develop a pre-school in the area. The Metta Centre in Nepal was given £800.00 for the educational needs of the children in the orphanage.

On his visit to Sri Lanka this year, one of our trustees, Richard Jones, visited Madanwela Pirivena and noticed the difficulties experienced by the authorities in completing the work of a building. This is a teaching monastery, where young monks receive their

education. Work on one large building had come to halt due to lack of funds and this was holding back completion of badly-needed facilities. A total of approximately £12468.00 was given through the Rahula Trust to complete the building work.

Some of our sponsors managed to visit the children whom they are sponsoring and they are very happy to see those children and their progress. They have sent pictures to the Trust. When one sponsor, Dr. Y. Rajapakse, visited the child he was sponsoring, he found that the house in which the child was living was not adequate. So he very kindly paid for the building of a new house for the child and her family. This was a most generous act which has really benefited the whole family.

We need sponsors right now to help children living in some of the poorest villages in the country. If you are already sponsoring a child or would like to increase your level of support, please give this some consideration. You will be the child's only sponsor;

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### NEW HOUSE FOR A FAMILY

### BEFORE AND AFTER



*When Dr. Y. Rajapakse visited one of the children he was sponsoring in Tissamaharama he found that the house in which the child was living was not adequate. So he very kindly agreed to build a new house for the child and her family. With the help of the gramasevaka and the principal of the local school a new house was built and handed over to them. This was a most generous act which has really benefited the whole family.*

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they will know your name, and who you are, just as you will know them. Sponsored children send school reports, cards and letters, and you can write back too. Words of encouragement can give a child a great boost in confidence as they work towards a better future. You can even arrange to visit your sponsored child to see their progress.

Last year was another record-breaking year financially and we have raised over £60,000.00. This included the sum of £14728.00 which we recovered from the Inland Revenue under the Gift Aid scheme. If you pay income tax and have not already signed a Gift Aid form, please do so. It means we can recover 28p in every pound which you donate.

We strive continually to keep our administrative costs to a minimum. Our staff are all unpaid volunteers and other costs are kept under tight control. This is reflected in the figures shown in our summarised accounts.

It is due to your generosity and kindness that we could continue our service to those children who are in need of financial help with their education. We appreciate your help and dedication to the Rahula Trust. On behalf of the Trustees I would like to say thank you for your kind support.

Ven. T. Bandula, Secretary

## A letter from a sponsor after his visit to Sri Lanka

Dear Ven. Bandula,

*Thank you very much for your email asking about our visit to Sri Lanka. It was very thoughtful of you. We had a wonderful time - it is beautiful country, and whilst the damage from the Tsunami was obviously severe, we were amazed by the amount of reconstruction that has already taken place, and the optimism and determination of the people we met to rebuild.*

*We were fortunate to visit both of the students whom I sponsor during our visit. It was a pleasure to meet them and their families, and to see their homes and schools. It is clear that they are very deserving - The Rahula Trust does truly excellent work in providing the means for us to contribute in such a constructive way.*

*We also very much enjoyed our time visiting and working with SERVE. Mr. de Mel was very kind to us, and had arranged excellent accommodation in a house right next door to their children's centre and office. We worked with the children using the computers that The Rahula Trust has provided. The children are enthusiastic to learn how to use the computers and pick things up very quickly. SERVE is investing a great deal to build up this facility, and*

*hope to obtain more computers and employ a full-time teacher.*

*I enclose pictures from our time at SERVE and from our visits to Sumedha and Pushpa.*

*Please accept our thanks for making this visit possible for us. We look forward to continuing our sponsorship and seeing Sumedha's and Pushpa's progress.*

*Kind regards,*

*Jonathan Tuliani,  
17 June 2006*



## DEVELOPING PRE-SCHOOL IN TAWALAMA

At the request of the Tawalama Women's Service Society, the Rahula Trust has donated £2000.00 to develop a pre-school in Tawalama South in Hiniduma. This is a very

remote village in Galle District in Sri Lanka. To develop education for small children this pre-school was started. There are 100 students in this pre-school but they do not have

enough money to develop facilities for the children's studies and sports.

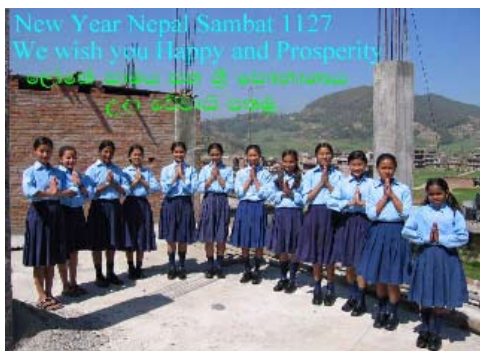
The Rahula Trust donated this money for educational equipment, to develop classrooms and

the children's library, open spaces and sports equipment. The Rahula Trust is also sponsoring the annual distribution of educational equipment to these children.





## METTA CENTRE AND CHILD SPONSORSHIP IN NEPAL



### Metta Centre

This year also we gave financial support to the Metta Centre in Nepal. This is a children's orphanage and we are supporting their education. We have received messages from their treasurer and from two of the children:

*Our Metta Centre is running with successfully with your help. There are 12 children now. They are from age 12-16 years. They study at Shiksha Sadan Secondary school. We do provide them not only with education and moral spiritual guidance, but also what they need for everyday living. We teach them in a Sunday Dhamma school too. They got very successful results last year.*

*I would like to inform you that every child has passed with a high mark in the year 2005/2006. Nine children passed in the First Division and two passed in the Second Division. The eldest one, Renu Twayana, passed the GCE O/L in Second Division. Now she is studying commerce in Pragati Prabhat College, Banepa, and Binita Bade is learning in class 10.*

*So, I request you to support us in order to fulfil the dreams of the Metta Centre children. We do hope The Rahula Trust will kindly help the Metta Centre.*

*Ven. Rahula  
(Treasurer, Metta Centre)*

*First of all I want to express my sincere thanks to you who helped me with my studies. You spend money on my studies. Your help makes me successful. I passed GCE O/L in second division with your help. Now I'm studying A/L in the Management faculty. I'm studying well in my class but do have some problems. The money is very important to help me fulfil my study. Other people also help me, but it is not enough. So, I keep hoping you'll help with my further studies. If I get financial support from you in the future, it will be great help for the studies of both myself and my friends in the Metta Centre Children's Home.*

*I thank you once again for your help and I wish you happy, long and prosperous life.*

*(Renu Twayana)*

*Firstly thank you very much for your kind help. I and our all friends are very happy to know that your kindness helps us.*

*I believe that that our future will be bright helped by your love and support. I'm Binita Bade, a student of this Metta Centre Children's Home. At the present I'm studying at school in Grade ten. I'm going to sit for GCE O/L exam this year. I hope you will continue to help our studies. Now we get everything here under the guidance of the Metta Centre. I thank you all for helping us by donating large financial support.*

*(Binita Bade)*

### Sponsorship - Nepal

This year we have increased the number of students being sponsored in Nepal. We are now sponsoring 33 students. This project is managed by the Samyak Youth Group in Balambu, Kathmandu. Money and other necessary items are distributed among these children. We have received school reports and letters from the students being sponsored. They show that they are making progress in their education.

## VIHARAMAHA DEVI INFANT EDUCATION PROJECT

At the request of the managing Trustees of Viharamahadevi Girls Home, the Rahula Trust agreed to supply financial support to engage a teacher for educating infants in the Viharamahadevi Girls Home. The Trust already gives financial support for educating young girls in the orphanage. From this year infants also have their teacher to give them some education. Before this, they did not receive any education.

A computer centre is also being built for the use of children. Funds have been allocated for the purchase of three new computers and for funding a teacher to teach computing to the children in the home.



### PRITHIPURA INFANT HOME

The Prithipura Infants Home in Henedala exists to provide care for children and young adults with severe mental and physical disabilities, usually caused by cerebral palsy.

This Home also represents a refuge for those children whose level of disability is not so acute but who have been abandoned by their parents. In Sri Lanka, especially in rural areas, disability is often stigmatised and support for less able children is very limited, if not entirely absent.

This year the Rahula Trust started supporting an educational project in this home. This involved the provision of funds to engage staff to teach dancing and music.

## The Rahula Trust Summarised Accounts Year ending 30th September 2006

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2006 £	Total 2005 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Donations	4,336	42,709	47,045	31,221
Legacies	-	-	-	10,000
Gift Aid	14,728	-	14,728	6,567
Investment income	2,385	623	3,008	2,717
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>21,449</b>	<b>43,332</b>	<b>64,781</b>	<b>50, 505</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Costs of generating funds	179	235	414	398
Charitable expenditure	9,460	41,565	51,025	27,143
Management and administration	289	-	289	456
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>9,928</b>	<b>41,800</b>	<b>51,728</b>	<b>27,997</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	<b>11,521</b>	<b>1,532</b>	<b>13,053</b>	<b>22,508</b>

*The financial information has been extracted from the annual accounts. For further information please ask the Secretary for the full annual report and accounts and examiners report.*

## Kenya Sponsorship Programme and Nyumbani Project.

**G**rim projections show that by the year 2010 the HIV/AIDS orphan population in sub-Saharan Africa will be 30 – 35 million, of whom more than 18 - 21 million will be desperately destitute.

For several years the Rahula Trust has been giving some support to the Nyumbani Children's Home in Nairobi, which looks after orphan children who are also HIV+. They

have now started a new enterprise, Nyumbani Village, on a piece of land about 50 miles from Nairobi in the Kitui district. There is a "missing" generation in Kenya. Elderly people who would have expected to be looked after in their old age by their adult children are finding that they are having to look after these adults while they die from HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, these grandparents are having to raise their grandchildren. Often they themselves are sick, weak and disillusioned, having had to nurse their sick adult children all the way to the grave. So the Nyumbani Village has been designed to bring together both the elderly and very young to live in a community of mutual self-help. It aims at housing and nurturing 160 families, comprising around 1,000 children and 200 elderly grandparents.

It is being constructed with great attention to sound ecological principles. Everything, with the exception of the steel, cement and glass is produced on site. When this project is completed, virtually everybody who has worked here will have a skilled trade to offer. This will in turn enable them to get a decent job as a mason, tile maker, blockmaker, surveyor, etc. In many ways, this

concept is as important as providing orphans with homes. It should also be self-supporting agriculturally. Permaculture is the concept of planting a variety of crops in a canopy format. Food crops of differing types and heights are interspersed in such a way as to form water vapour retaining canopies. This method is much more effective in retaining rainfall. When the moisture undergoes evaporation, it evaporates upward through each layer of growth rather than evaporating into the air. This type of agriculture works very well in areas that have limited rainfall.

The Trust has recently donated £500 to Nyumbani Village to buy desks for their school.

The two children also being sponsored are doing very well. Joan Mutuku is studying hotel management and completed a 6-month secondment to one of the leading safari lodges with outstanding results, scoring mostly "excellent" and nothing less than "good". Her younger sister, Mary Mutuku, has completed her secondary education at Taibah College School where she was "commended for excellent results over the last 2 years."



**Trustees of the Rahula Trust:**

Ven. Tawalama Bandula  
Mr. Martin Evans  
Mr. Rohan Kariyawasam  
Dr. Robert Parsons, M. B. E.  
Mr. Richard Jones

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**Sri Lanka Office:**

Ven. Prof. B. Wimalaratana  
Mr. W. B. A. Jayasekera

Designed and typeset by Ven. T. Bandula

# You can help a child in need. Become a sponsor today...

## Sponsorship costs just £10 a month but all donations are welcome!

A small regular donation of £10 per month can make the world of difference to the quality of education a child receives thousands of miles away. Every child should have the opportunity to receive an education, but without assistance, many children will remain uneducated and, as adults, be unable to rise above poverty.

Each child sponsored through The Rahula Trust is assigned to one sponsor. If a sponsor ceases his/her support, we seek a new sponsor for the child.

### How to give:

- **STANDING ORDER** *(this is easiest way to give)*
  - Paying by standing order is easy to set up and means you don't have to keep remembering to send off cheques.
  - It is also beneficial for the Rahula Trust because it reduces administration costs.

***A standing order is the preferred method of payment for child sponsorship. Please complete the form.***

#### ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO PAY -

If you are not able to pay by Standing Order:

- **CHEQUE/POSTAL ORDER (Please make payable to the Rahula Trust)**

#### **New Gift Aid scheme**

On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2000 a new and much simplified Gift Aid scheme came into operation. If you are a taxpayer, all you have to do is complete the declaration and return it to us. This will enable us to recover nearly 30p in tax for every £1 you give, on any payments you make to The Rahula Trust in the future.

#### **Charitable Bequests:**

Gifts made to the Rahula Trust in your Will are free from inheritance tax. This is a wonderful way to give and generate *metta* at a time when material possessions are no longer necessary.

#### **In Sri Lanka:**

If you would like to give donations in Sri Lankan Rupees to the Rahula Trust please send your cheque/postal order or money payable to **Rahula Trust A/C No. 1-0001-01-02601 to:- The Chief Manager, National Savings Bank, Head Office Branch, Colombo 3, Sri Lanka.**

If you have recently donated please accept our thanks and hopes for your continued support in the future.

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## SINGLE DONATIONS

For a single donation, please make a cheque payable to THE RAHULA TRUST. Please tick one of the following boxes.

STG 10 Only       STG 20 Only       STG 50 Only       Any other amount.....

Name of donor:.....

Address:.....

..... Post Code..... Tel:.....

*Please sign the Gift Aid Declaration.*



# THE RAHULA TRUST

(Child Sponsorship Programme)

Registered Charity No: 1075742

## STANDING ORDER

The Manager (Name of your bank).....

Address: (Address of your bank).....

.....Post Code.....

Please credit **THE RAHULA TRUST** Account No: **80006000** Sort Code: **40-50-56**  
**BANK OF CEYLON,** 1, Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4UJ

The amount of: £..... (£.....) monthly/ quarterly/annually\*.

[The suggested sponsorship for one child is £10/month. Please enter the amount you want to give in words and figures.]

Please debit my Account No. ....Sort code.....

starting on ..... (insert date) or immediately on receipt of this order whichever is the later date.

Signature ..... Date.....

Name of Account to be debited:.....

Home Address.....

.....Post Code..... Tel.....

\* Please delete as appropriate.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE RAHULA TRUST, NOT TO YOUR BANK. THANK YOU.

### New Gift Aid scheme

On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2000 a new and much simplified Gift Aid scheme came into operation. If you are a taxpayer, all you have to do is complete the declaration below and return it to me. This will enable us to recover nearly 30p in tax for every £1 you give, on any payments you make to The Rahula Trust in the future

#### GIFT AID DECLARATION

Full name .....

Address .....

.....

This declaration confirms my wish to make donations to The Rahula Trust under the new Gift Aid scheme and applies to all donations made by me from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2000. I am under no obligation to make any further donations and I may cancel this declaration at any time.

I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer, resident in the UK for tax purposes and that I will advise The Rahula Trust if this situation changes.

Signature ..... Date .....

Please return the form to: The Treasurer, Rahula Trust, 22 Ridge Lea, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP1 2AZ