



## THUNAIVI NEWS

September 2011

Thunaivi is the Service Arm of Australian Tamil Management Service and is committed to serving the needy.


**Widows / Single Mothers** Our women in Northern Sri Lanka now seem more motivated and enthusiastic in finding self-employment at various levels. We continue to help them strengthen their self-confidence, through simple interactions that they are comfortable with. We focus especially on Mothers with young children undertake home based work – such as grooming cattle & poultry; tailoring and having their own grocery and food outlets.

As per our Common Values, during the quarter ended 30 September, we lent the more enterprising mothers funds on the condition that they return the funds in installments. Interest of 5% is charged and this interest is paid to the local area Administrator of these projects. The Capital funds for this came from **Athys Jewellers** of Dandenong; Victoria; Australia. Thank you Baheerathan, Kannan and Raja – the musical trio whose caring hearts made this possible.

There are also some less enthusiastic women, who due to their past are not able to project into the future and tend to resign themselves to 'fate'. We try to bring them together through activities that they find attractive and interesting. One such activity was the sale of clothes at a very nominal price. As per our Common Principles and Values, unless it is humanitarian need, we do not handout anything 'free'. We encourage each participant to earn the value they derive from the activity, so they would feel independent. If nothing else is available, we help them invest in Common Processes through which they could pay their respects to Service Providers and thus own their share of the activity, through the principles and laws covering those Common Processes. We believe that we all have the ability to own through payment, work and/or by paying respect at least to equal the income/benefit we derive. Hence we develop common processes suited to the environment – so that respect to those processes would be respect to the 'system' through which Service Providers facilitate these activities – especially Service Providers from Australia. Thunaivi is especially focused on Mothers in the Community because majority currently living in Northern Sri Lanka are driven more by their

belief and feelings than by logic and intellectual analyses. Given that mothers are feelers, we feel the importance of strengthening our Mothers.

**Sale of Clothes** Clothes (new and used with care) donated by Australian Tamils were transported to Thunaivi and were priced at nominal values – with kids' clothes being around Rs. 10/- and adult clothes around Rs. 100/- per item. After initial dissatisfaction over the way the clothes were distributed, we decided to sell them ; pool the proceeds of a buyer through a the day's proceeds. The



distributed, we decided to sell of the day and draw the name lottery system, as the winner of local folks were very happy with this and enthusiastically participated. In the process we helped them organize themselves in an orderly manner so all had Equal Opportunity to purchase as per their affordability. To us this was part of our program to practice Equal Opportunity Principles.

By paying for the clothes, our folks felt that they would value the clothes more than they otherwise did with handouts. Given that the clothes were of high quality, this activity helped them feel they were special. This was also our introduction to Business Unit approach in Australian Public Service. Special thank you to our **Sai Devotees** who contribute generously to this program on an ongoing basis.



**Library Facilities** The generous contribution by **Athys Jewellers** of Dandenong; Victoria; Australia - to Thunaivi has helped accelerate our plans to establish libraries in rural areas around Vattukkotai and Kilinochchi. One of our first libraries is being built at



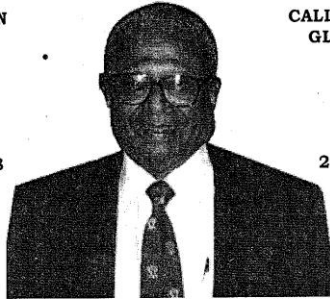
Moolai South to serve the Community of Odugampulam, who are a disenfranchised community. Our participation in developing Community Support Structures would go a long way to boost their morale. The official opening ceremony is being planned for January next year. We have also facilitated the regular viewing of Mahabharatham – by the kids of both Odugampulam and Sangarathai - thanks to the donation made by Jegan and Lingam of **Pyramid Spice**; Flemington; New South Wales; Australia. We are now collecting books and DVDs of children's programs such as Wiggles. The first sessions were conducted during our presence and it was very rewarding to watch the little one enjoy these simple forms of educational entertainment.

We participated in the Principal Rajan Kadirgamar

**A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING  
FOR THE LIFE AND WITNESS OF**

BORN  
27  
-  
10  
-  
1928

CALLED TO  
GLORY  
17  
-  
09  
-  
2011



*ARASARATNAM KADIRGAMAR (RAJAN) PRINCIPAL  
EMERITUS OF JAFFNA COLLEGE*

*Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2011,  
at 9.30 a.m.*

*in  
the Ottley Hall, Jaffna College*

Memorial Services in honor of of Jaffna College. Discipline at Jaffna College continues to be



Principal Rajan Kadirgamar's and strengthening of Jaffna appreciation and gratitude.

of a high standard and contribution to the progress College was remembered with



**JAFFNA COLLEGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

As arranged by us, graduates of the **Jaffna College Institute of Technology** are undergoing training at Iceman Technologies at Kanthana (in the outskirts of Colombo). We are very appreciative of the generosity by Iceman Technologies for the ongoing facility available to the youth of North. We are now developing a proposal to train professional students in Accounting and Law at the appropriate institutions in Jaffna and Colombo.

**Educational Activities**

Thunai School of Human Values continues to operate satisfactorily and we are continuing to provide bread on two nights of the week. This Bread is provided by the local bakery at a nominal price, funded – as is the case with all our



Humanitarian Services - out of our Common Pool from volunteer donors.

Plans are currently underway to commence a Bakery Course in collaboration with Jaffna College Institute of Technology. **Dr. Naren Rajasingham**, a Tamil Diaspora Leader who has expertise in this area, has promised to assist us in this regard. **Professor Sathananthan of Monash University**, Melbourne; Australia – consolidates the support of investors from various

parts of the world.

An English  
recruited to  
of

communicate in English.  
has promised to supervise  
reports – so we could consider extending the course to students undertaking Vocational  
Studies.



teacher has been  
train the Children  
Sangarathai to

Sam Hensman of St John's College Alumni  
the classes and give us regular feedback

**More in our next Newsletter**

**Gaja Laskhmi Paramasivam**