



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
SRI LANKA

A loving home for every child

A LOVING HOME FOR EVERY CHILD

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The SOS NEWSLETTER



Inside:

- Read how you can help give a happy childhood
- A dream come true... a home for children in Jaffna



A loving home for every child

Having lost their parents Janaki and Marie were lonely and scared...

Read how contributions from friends like you are providing them a loving family and home.

I would like to share with you the stories of Janaki and Marie. No they are not sisters; in fact they are not related to each other. But they have something in common. Unfortunately, both of them lost their parents at a very young age. Suddenly they found themselves alone and helpless. The fact that they were in the conflict affected areas made their life even more difficult.

Janaki was only ten years old when her father passed away due to an illness. She, her mother and two elder sisters somehow started to live their lives, despite the surrounding conflict. Some months later they were brought into a peace camp. But a greater tragedy awaited them. Janaki's mother who had contracted pneumonia also passed away. The three sisters were now without any parental support.

They were then referred to the SOS Temporary Care Project at Chettikulam. "I was scared as any other child would be in a new environment, but when my SOS mother hugged me I felt connected to her. She took me and introduced me to my SOS brothers and sisters. Everyone looked very excited about having me in the family," remembers Janaki.

Like Janaki, Marie had also lost her home and parents in the conflict. She was shifted from one alternate care institution to another till she came to the SOS Temporary Care Project at Chettikulam. "I had lost my family and home in the conflict and was constantly moving from one children's home to another. I dreamt of living in a home with a caring mother and playing with my brothers and sisters,"

When Marie came in she was in a state of trauma. She was a shy child and spoke very softly. She would often wake up at night and start crying. "In the first few days it was quite difficult to comfort her but thankfully now nothing is visible of that terrible past," says her SOS mother.

Are you wondering what Janaki and Marie are doing now?

Janaki studies in Grade nine and likes going to school. She loves music and dances to English songs. "I want to be a dancing teacher and share my talent with children," Janaki says with a smile. Today, Janaki is a confident young girl who has dreams for brighter future. Your constant support can help give wings to her dreams.

Marie is fifteen years old and is growing up in a loving family. She is very fond of her school and teachers. She is enthusiastic about participating in all the events at her school. She plays various games but football seems to be her favourite.

"I like to live here. I have friends and feel safe," says Marie. Her grandfather is the only living relative



but Marie has chosen to live with her SOS family.

Like Marie and Janaki, hundreds of children in Jaffna saw their childhood being destroyed. But fortunately these two got a second opportunity to live in a loving family environment.

The hope that we see in the eyes of children like Marie and Janaki shows all that can be done with your support.

Work has started at the sixth SOS Children's Village in Jaffna. Soon these children will walk into the gates of a new village built on 2.5 acre with safe homes to turn their dreams into reality and get another opportunity to build memories and moments which make a happy and fulfilling childhood.

72 children are under our care as a part of the former Chettikulam project for families displaced by conflict. With love, children like Marie and Janaki, have been slowly but steadily rebuilding their childhood. We work from three rented premises but we aspire to give them a home, just like we have done for children in need for over thirty years.

We invite YOU to be a part of this dream and support us by building an SOS Village and home for them in Jaffna.



Ananda B. Karunaratne, National Director, SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka shares these stories of Janaki and Marie.

Everyone except me went back home

Read how contributions like yours are shaping the life of Sanjeev, a child who lost his home and family during the conflict.

Sanjeev was born to a poor family in Pudukiriyippu, Mulathivu district in Sri Lanka. The civil unrest in the North made it difficult for them to keep up their income levels. His father and mother worked hard to feed their five children. When Sanjeev was 4 years old, the family decided to send him to a children's home for alternate care.



One vacation when Sanjeev came home to see his family he was informed that everyone in his family - his father, mother, brothers and sisters had died. Little Sanjeev was the only surviving member of his family.

"I felt utterly helpless and afraid to face the world all by myself," he remembers with sadness in his voice.

A few days later Sanjeev was sent to Kombavil Children's home in Pudukkulam. He stayed there for 2 months. Children in alternate care were frequently relocated due to the escalation of violence in the area.

Sanjeev was shifted again to a place called Sudhandirapuram for 20 days. He was then moved to Anandapuram Children's home in Pudukkulam. He was there only for 5 days. From here many children were reunited with their families. But Sanjeev did not have a family to go back to.

"I was just moving from one place to another. I was really tired of all this and wanted a place where I could live forever. I wanted to go to school and play with my friends."

At last, Sanjeev was placed at the SOS Temporary Care Project in Chettikulem which was set up to take care of unaccompanied children.

"I am very happy here. I don't feel afraid anymore," says Sanjeev, waving his cricket bat and running out to play with his friends.

He is now studying in Grade 6 and has found himself an SOS family to grow up with. He wakes up early in the morning and quickly gets ready for school. He likes having idly for breakfast. Sanjeev makes it a point to hug his SOS mother before leaving for school. Back home he loves eating rice and curry for lunch. He takes a nap in the afternoon so that he is ready for his evening play.

Like many other boys his age, Sanjeev enjoys playing cricket. He is also very fond of his school and teachers. It is hard to imagine the difficult times he has gone through

Losing parents and loved ones leaves children shattered. With conflict around them, a safe and caring family is like a distant dream. With YOUR support we have been providing a loving home to children like Sanjeev. It gives these children a second opportunity to enjoy a happy childhood and have dreams for their future.

when you see him play with his SOS brothers and sisters.

"I am very happy here. I don't feel afraid anymore," says Sanjeev, waving his cricket bat and running out to play with his friends. He's still wondering what he wants to be when he grows up but given the chance he would love to play cricket for Sri Lanka.

Sanjeev and 72 children like him who are at present cared for by the SOS Temporary Facility will soon have a new home at our 6th SOS Children's Village coming up in Jaffna. You too could be a partner in their pursuit for a better life by gifting your contributions towards their education, so that they too could be respected citizens of this country.



'I am a successful hotel supervisor and tour guide today. Thank you SOS and supporters'

Read how contributions like yours help shape the future of children like Pubudu

I was just three-years-old when I came to SOS Children's Village Piliyandala. I remember that a lady received me with lots of warmth and love. She hugged me and said, "Welcome my son." Soon even without realising it, I started calling her amma. She gave me my name – Pubudu De Silva.

I fondly remember the fun-filled days that I spent with my SOS brothers and sisters. We ran around in open fields at the Village and loved playing cricket. The village and surroundings had several fruit laden trees. My friends and I would often climb-up to pluck mangoes and kottambas. These moments of love and bonding are still fresh in my mind.

The SOS Children's Village in Piliyandala was near a rubber plantation and my house was named Kokila. My SOS mother was very particular when it came to studies. She developed in me a habit of getting up early and revising my lessons. I enjoyed going to my school- SOS Hermann Gmeiner School. I loved sports and soon became very active in athletics.



The evenings were reserved for reading stories. My SOS mother would read aloud to us. She shared stories about different places, people and countries. Thanks to her, I fell in love with reading. I developed an interest in learning foreign languages. Today I can speak German and English. I feel this is a special gift that my SOS mother gave me.

At the Village we were taught to dream big. I applied and got admission into a good hotel management institute immediately after my secondary school. I was attracted to a career with the international airlines industry and therefore joined a cabin crew training programme.

Travelling and meeting new people is part of my profession now. I am 32 years old and I work as a supervisor for a leading hotel chain in Sri Lanka. I am also a licensed tour guide. I still want to study more and dream of pursuing a course in international relations someday.

Today, I am independent and successful because of the love, care and values that my SOS mother gave me. Thank you for giving me a childhood full of joy and a bright future!

SOS youth represents Sri Lanka at SAFF Football Tournament in Nepal

A. P. Nuwan Pathirana of SOS Children's Village, Anuradhapura represented Sri Lanka at the Under-16 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) tournament held from August 1st to 10th in Kathmandu, Nepal. Seven countries participated in this tournament.

Nuwan came to SOS Children's Village in 1996 as a four month old infant. In 2002, Nuwan started going to school at St. Joseph's College Anuradhapura. Nuwan is good at both studies and sports. He is an active member of the School Football team.



A loving home for every child

● If you prefer to receive the receipts as and when payments are made, please tick this box. Yes
 Help save the environment - if not ticked, we will assume you prefer to receive your payment receipts at the end of the year. (i.e. we send you all your receipts in December)

■ The coupon below enables you to become an SOS friend and help a child in urgent need, today! By filling out the Standing Order form you ensure that your donation reaches your sponsored child monthly / quarterly / annually.

▲ Help us serve you better –please enter your NIC number in the form below.

DONATION FORM

Yes, I want to give a child a second opportunity to have a family!

Have you contributed to SOS earlier? Yes No

I wish to...

- Sponsor a child Rs. 1000/- per month Rs. 12,000/- annually
- Sponsor a child's education Rs. 500/- per month Rs. 6000/- annually
- Sponsor a family Rs. 10,000/- per month Rs. 120,000/- annually
- Rates for non-residential Sri Lankans (Sponsor a Child) Rs. 2500/- per month Rs. 30,000/- annually

- OR Make a one-time contribution of Rs. _____
 Share my ideas on helping more children at SOS Children's Villages
 Introduce my company to help the cause of children in need

Tel:
 E-mail:
 Occupation:
 Birthday:
 ▲ NIC No:

SOS is an approved charity. Your contribution is tax deductible

Payment method; Cheque Money Order

No. Date / /

Please draw in favour of "SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka"

Visa/ Master Credit Card AMEX

Card Holder's Name

Card No.

Expiry Date / /

Signature

Date / /

You may also make your donation at www.soscvsrilanka.org

Be a friend, Tell a friend...

Do you have friends interested in helping SOS Children's Villages?

Name and contact details:

BANK STATEMENT FORM

STANDING ORDER APPLICATION FORM (TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Date / /

The Manager

Bank Name and Branch :

Please make the periodical remittances as given below by debiting my account:

ACCOUNT HOLDER'S NAME :

ACCOUNT NO. :

TRANSFER TO

BENEFICIARY'S NAME/ADDRESS:

BANK NAME & ACCOUNT DETAILS:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> HATTON NATIONAL BANK | <input type="text"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> HSBC | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BANK OF CEYLON | <input type="text"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL BANK | <input type="text"/> |

PAYMENTS TO BE MADE Monthly Quarterly Half Yearly Annually PAYMENT TYPE:

DUE DATE FIRST PAYMENT DATE / / FINAL PAYMENT DATE / /

PAYMENT AMOUNT (IN WORDS)

Rs. .

In view of your undertaking to make these remittances, it is expressly understood that the Bank is relieved from all claims for losses, which may arise through error, omission or delay. It is also understood that in the event of there being insufficient funds in my/our accounts to meet the payments on dates specified, the Bank cannot accept responsibility for enduring that the instructions carried out when funds subsequently become available. The Bank will also cancel this order without reference in the event three payments are defaulted. On the date of effecting payment, the bank reserves the right to determine the priority of this payment order against cheques presented or any other existing arrangements made with the bank. The bank may terminate this order as to future payments at any time by notice in writing to the applicant or without notice at any time after being advised by the beneficiary/beneficiaries that no further payment is required. This order will remain effective notwithstanding the death or bankruptcy/liquidation until notice of such death or bankruptcy/liquidation or the revocation of this order is received by the Bank. Any amendments and cancellations should reach the Bank at least one week before the successive payment is due. A charge will be levied for each amendment.

SIGNATURE/S

Please tick your preference -

- Sponsor a child Rs. 1000/- per month Rs. 12000/- annually
- Sponsor a child's education Rs. 500/- per month Rs. 6000/- annually
- Sponsor a family Rs. 10000/- per month Rs. 120000/- annually
- Rates for non-residential Sri Lankans (Sponsor a Child) Rs. 2500/- per month Rs. 30000/- annually

Additional notes



SOS CHILDREN'S
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DONATION FORM

DONATION FORM

DONATION FORM

DONATION FORM

BANK STATEMENT FORM

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BANK STATEMENT FORM

“With SOS Children’s Villages I am always sure that my donations are in safe hands”

Read what motivates Mr. Feroz Omar, a long standing donor to continue giving.

Mr. Feroze Omar is an entrepreneur who lives in Colombo. He commenced by sponsoring 20 SOS children, 17 years ago and continues to maintain the same number of child sponsorships, helping several generations of SOS children throughout the years. Read what motivates him to help...

In 1994, I got to know about SOS Children’s Villages Sri Lanka and the work they do for children. While some of us have been lucky enough to have had a childhood growing up in the loving care of our parents and being in the midst of our friends, brothers and sisters in our younger years; there are those who - for various reasons - have not been able to enjoy such privileges. These are also just some of the many children who have been affected and left destitute by circumstances beyond their control, such as the 30-year old civil conflict and the 2004 Tsunami. But they are also the lucky ones. Despite suffering loss of parents/family they have received loving care from SOS Children’s Villages. Without such help, who knows what would have become of these children?

I decided to sponsor 20 children from SOS Children’s Village Piliyandala. This was the beginning of my relationship with SOS Children’s Villages Sri Lanka. Over the years, I am happy to say that I was able to make a positive change in the lives of many children.

I have always intended to make direct contact and establish a meaningful relationship with organizations such as these that help those in need. I sincerely hope my contributions will help in formulating progress in the Sri Lankan communities. With SOS I know that my money is in good hands and utilised in the best interest of children”.

“If initiatives such as this can flourish and help to rebuild the lives of Sri Lanka’s devastated youth, then there can be hope for a brighter future with peace and stability that can be established by the willingness of people. It can help overcome the cycle of violence that many youth have slipped into in recent years.

This mission is a shining example of how Sri Lankans can come together in rebuilding the lives of orphans and providing them with a future that they can look forward to. It is my fervent hope and wish that others too will come forward in helping this worthy humanitarian initiative”.



Mr. Feroz Omar



A Special request

As you are aware, the cost of living is increasing day by day. This in turn increases the costs of bringing up children. If you haven’t already increased your child sponsorship to SLR 1000 per month, please consider to do so, as it would help us maintain the quality of care at the levels they have been. Thank you dear SOS friends!

Sponsor a Child

Your sponsorship enables a child to grow up in an SOS family, receive the best possible education and become a responsible adult. Your support provides for the physical, material and more importantly, the emotional well-being of a child.

Your support can give a loving home to children in Jaffna

I am indeed privileged and honoured to have been associated with SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka for the last few years as its President. A happy childhood, a loving family and a good education are ideals that we strive to provide to all children under our care.

The 6th SOS Children's Village, coming up in Jaffna will fulfill this need for many more children. Situated in 2.5 acres, just 4.5 km from Jaffna at Nallur's Nayanmarkattu, the new village will have 12 family houses that will be a loving home to the 72 children presently living at the SOS Temporary Care Project in Jaffna.

A couple of months ago, these children were caught in the Northern conflict. Most of them lost their parents and had nobody to call their own. They were just moving from one children's home to another. At last, they were placed in the SOS Temporary Care Project at Chettikulam where they found a loving SOS mother who gave them nutritious food and took care of all their basic needs. Today, these children are living happily in their SOS families. They go to school, make friends and play with their SOS brothers and sisters. The children are not afraid anymore as they have a safe place to live which they call home.

The stories of Marie, Janaki and Sanjeev on page numbers 2 and 3 are a few examples of how children are now living normal lives after their traumatic past. Sanjeev wants to be a cricketer and Janaki a dancing teacher, a dream that needs your constant support and encouragement.

It is our endeavour to provide a loving home to every child where they receive care and affection of a mother, grow up naturally with brothers and sisters within a protective village. In this task we require continued support of our existing friends and donors. We also wish and hope that more friends would join us to support our work.



Malsiri Dias, President - Board of Directors,
SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka



For just **Rs.33 per day** your donation will help a child in need to grow up in the warmth and security of a family and receive an education or learn a trade which prepares them for an independent life.

The funds will be used to cover living expenses and ensure access to education and medical services.

Please send your donation today.

You can call, write or interact with us at:

SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka

The National Office, P.O. Box 05, Kesbewa, Piliyandala.
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Nuwaraeliya: +94-52 222 2535
Galle: +94-91 223 4607
Anuradhapura: +94-25 223 5347
Monaragala: +94-55 227 6938
F: +94-11 270 2321
E: fund@soscvsrilanka.org
W (Sri Lanka): www.soscvsrilanka.org
W (International): www.sos-childrensvillages.org

Find us online



The best gift that we could give our children is a sound education, with which they will be well equipped to face the future with confident independence. Our efforts have paid off with students who sat for the recent G.C.E. A/L examination as well as the year 5 scholarship showing improved results in comparison to results in the recent past. In fact, 20 of the A/L candidates have qualified for university entrance this year.