

Haiyan, 2013

Dear Friends,

I received a message from Fr. Paul Chuong Nguyen right after coming back from a week of parish mission and three weeks of medical mission in Vietnam. I have not even had time to write a report on the different projects to aid the storm victims in the High Central of Vietnam, (Pleiku, Gia-rai, and Kontum.) Fr. Nguyen's message of "Aid Typhoon Haiyan Victims" already added a series of pictures and information of another natural disaster with its catastrophic destruction. Super Typhoon Haiyan which is one of the strongest storms in world history based on maximum windspeed of over 300 mph and deadly storm surge of 30ft. It destroyed all that had been built in a life-time, and especially destroyed so many human lives.

A Filipino parishioner, Dr. R.G. Mendoza, and his wife have invited me to join them in a mission trip to assist the typhoon victims. "Fr. Tri, can you join us to assist the victim of typhoon Haiyan in Philippines in Jan, 2014?" Father D. Gonzales responded right after that call: "Fr. Tri, if you go, I will join you in this mission." I also received a song that Fr. Hai-Dang composed from Rome, Italy for the victims of Haiyan.

*Người hỏi người có biết chăng?
Đã bao lần cơn bão thật hãi hùng
Tàn phá mọi cố gắng đắp xây,
suốt một đời nay đã chẳng còn gì?
Nhà nát người mất, tiếng khóc than.
Sóng vỗ gào đê vỡ làm lụn lụi.
Ruộng lúa, trường lớp bị cuốn trôi,
biết bao người nay đã thành trắng tay.*

*Người hỏi người có thấy chăng?
Không quyền lực trần thế nào cưỡng được?
Dập tắt mọi gió bão thiên tai.
Sức con người ta chẳng làm được gì?
Người hỏi người có thấu biết chăng?
Với sức mạnh chan chứa đầy tình người.
Tình mến, trợ giúp cùng sẻ chia,
chúng ta cùng xua tắt mọi tai ương*

***Cái còn lại sau đời này không
phải những gì ta thu tích.
Cái còn lại sau cuộc đời chính
là những gì ta cho đi.***



We, a group of priests, religious brothers and sisters, together with many lay people, have responded to the call for help from our suffering brothers and sisters over the years. We have journeyed with one another to many areas in the world to offer our assistance to the victims of natural disasters: tsunami in Indonesia, Katrina in the United States, earthquake in Haiti, tsunami in Japan, and several places in Vietnam that endure seasonal storms almost every year. And today, heeding the voice of our Holy Father Pope Francis, we invite you to join us also: “I ask you to join me to pray for the victims of the Haiyan typhoon, for the beloved people of the Philippines.”

Palawan, Battan, Subic Bay, these names will never fade in the memory of the Vietnamese people who survived on their journey seeking freedom. Thirty-eight years ago, these locations and the nation of the Philippines opened their arms in generosity to embrace the Vietnamese refugees. It is now the precious opportunity for us, Vietnamese, to return the favor to the people who have once rescued us in time of need. They need our help to rebuild their country that has been hurt, their lives that have been shattered, and their children’s future that have been disturbed because of Haiyan.

Pope Francis expressed his loves and prayers for the estimated tens of thousands of people dead and others affected by Super Typhoon Haiyan. *“For these brothers and sisters and let’s try also to make our concrete help reach them.”*

In the spirit of witnessing the love of Jesus our Lord to the suffering brothers and sisters, we will continue our mission, reaching out to those in need. But Nhom Lua Viet will fulfill this mission in three phases:

Phase 1: BNLV has transferred an emergency fund of \$3,000.00 (US dollars). The Salesian Mission Office in the Philippines, Salesians who currently work in the Philippines they will forwarded the donation to the victims of typhoon Haiyan.

Phase 2: Together with The Church and the international community, we urge the Vietnamese community, especially the youth and former “boat people” who once took refuge in the Philippines, to collaborate in this fundraising campaign. It will be called **“Picking Up Every Penny”** around us, to gather our small contributions into a bigger force of faith and strength to help those in need in Tacloban, Cebu, and other places.

Especially encourage your teenages to “collecting loose pennies”, transferring the small things around us into something that can alleviate the sufferings the victims of Haiyan.



Phase 3: “Mission of Love to Haiyan’s Victims in 2014”, father Tang Tri Pham will lead a group of physicians and volunteers to visit the survivors of affected areas – Tacloban, Cebu and islands that were destroyed by the Typhoon. (Father Hoai Chuong reported, at this moment, the Philippine government is limiting access to these areas because they are still in the emergency phase of rescuing the survivors and burying the dead. Transportation, water and electricity, and public safety are not fully restored.)

* All volunteers are responsible for their own expenses. For more information, please contact Rev. Chuong Hoai Nguyen at (813) 528-0490 and Rev. Tri Tang Pham at 727-643-5532 or by email: bnluaviet@gmail.com. We will provide more details of this mission in December.

In that spirit, BNLV is crying out the cry of help, of love, of sharing. To those who receive this letter, we ask for a response of love to the people of the Philippines, especially to the victim of Haiyan. We ask for help to bury the dead, to rebuild for the living, and to heal the wounds.

May you and your family be blessed with love and happiness.



Thank you,



Rev. Phạm Tăng Tri, (FL)	Rev. Nguyễn Hoài Chương, SDB (FL),
Rev. Vũ Hải Đăng, SDD (Roma)	Rev. Trần Việt Hùng (NJ)
Rev. Đồng Minh Quang (NV)	Rev. Hà Quốc Dũng, Csr (TX)
Rev. Nguyễn Trí (GA)	Rev. Lâm Quang Thi, Major, Royal Australian Navy
Rev. Đặng Trần, CMC (FL)	Rev. Trần Công Danh, SDB (NJ)
Sr. Hoàng Thanh Nga, MTG (OR)	
Rev. Huỳnh Tấn Việt, (FL)	Rev. Uông Đình Lượng, Csr (PA)
Rev. Phạm Thanh Bình, SDB (VN)	
Rev. Trần Minh Thái, SSS (FL)	Rev. Vũ Toàn Khoa, CMC (AL)
Rev. Vũ Douglas Dũng, (AL)	Br. George Celis, SDB, Philippines



Bút Nhóm *Lửa Việt*

Your donation is tax deductible
Make your check payable to

Lua Viet Youth Association
P.O. Box 349, Marlboro, NJ 07746-0349



Bút Nhóm **Luaviet**

SUPER TYPHOON HAIYAN

**Xin Cứu
Chúng Tôi**

**11.8
MILLION**



**Người Bị
Ảnh Hưởng**

**PEOPLE
AFFECTED**



921,212

Di Tản

DISPLACED

Cần Thiết

US\$

301

**MILLION
NEEDED**

Trung Tâm Sơ Tán

995

**EVACUATION
CENTRES**



345,834 PEOPLE INSIDE

Người Ở Bên Trong Trung Tâm Sơ Tán

575,378 PEOPLE OUTSIDE

Người Ở Bên Ngoài Trung Tâm Sơ Tán

14.4

% FUNDED

Tài Trợ



449

**schools damaged in
Trường Học Bị Hư Hỏng**

**5 AFFECTED
REGIONS**



243,595

**Nhà Bị Hư Hỏng
HOUSES DAMAGED**



131,106 houses completely
DESTROYED

Nhà Bị Phá Hủy Hoàn Toàn

**2.5
MILLION
PEOPLE**



100,000s*

**HECTARES OF RICE AND OTHER KEY CROPS
LOST OR DAMAGED**

**Trăm Ngàn Công Ruộng Lúa và Cây Trồng Khác
Bị Thiệt Hại và Hư Hỏng**



*Initial estimates

112,000

**CHILDREN
0 - 59 MONTHS**

**Trẻ Em Từ 0-59 Tháng
Cần Hỗ Trợ Dinh Dưỡng**

**require nutrition
assistance**

**Cần Hỗ Trợ
Lương Thực**



**in need of food
assistance**

5,209*



PEOPLE DEAD

*Government Reports

Người Chết

about

25

**INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN
AGENCIES OPERATING
IN TACLOBAN CITY**

(as of 14 November 2013)

**Khoảng 25 Cơ Quan Từ Thiện Quốc Tế
Hoạt Động Trong Thành Phố TACLOBAN**



**CHƯƠNG TRÌNH
CHÈN GẠO TÌNH THÂN**

<http://www.luaviet.org> - Email: luaviet@luaviet.org

*Despite all the technology,
it still comes down to shaping one individual at a time*



Bút Nhóm **Luaviet**