



THE FREEMASONS'  
GRAND CHARITY

## **Information Release**

**14 May 2008**

### **AID FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA**

The President of the Grand Charity has approved a £20,000 grant to the Red Cross to support relief efforts following an earthquake measuring 7.8 in south-western China. The Freemasons' Grand Charity is the first organisation to support the British Red Cross' response to the worst earthquake to strike China in more than 30 years.

The Red Cross Society of China's local branches have been active in the 48 hours following the quake providing emergency relief to the affected areas, including tents and blankets. Although the official death toll stands at 12,000 this is expected to rise sharply as rescuers gain access to previously cut off areas and thousands of people remain trapped in the debris of collapsed buildings.

The grant of £20,000 from The Freemasons' Grand Charity will be an important contribution to the continuing rescue and relief efforts and is enough to provide approximately 200 relief tents which will provide shelter for many of those affected and act as a first aid point to treat casualties and also 850 quilts.

The announcement of this grant comes just 24 hours after details of a £20,000 grant to assist victims of Cyclone Nargis in Burma (Myanmar) were released.

**For further information visit The Freemasons' Grand Charity website at [www.grandcharity.org](http://www.grandcharity.org) or contact Natasha Treweek on 020 7395 9394.**

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