



The Lost Towel Project

Stay Dry and Help a Refugee

It's a truth universally acknowledged. A child will often lose a school bag, PE Kit, lunchbox, swimming towel, goggles etc. How can your school help to reduce this perennial problem, and at the same time, benefit a very worthy cause?

The Lost Towel Project is really quite simple. For 90RM you can buy a high quality, ethically manufactured sports towel in the student's school house-colour (currently the colours available are red, blue, green and yellow). The towel is then expertly embroidered with the child's name by the Chin refugees from Myanmar. Expensive embroidery machines were kindly donated by Janome to support this initiative. The towel arrives in the specially designed waterproof bag.

The aim of the project is to improve the day-to-day lives of the Chin refugees in Malaysia, supporting educational and medical needs, and funding specific projects to improve their life chances. **Every ringgit of profit** from the towels is donated to the Chin women, via the United Nations recognised organisation, Mang Tha, which supports the Chin refugees in Malaysia.

The Lost Towel Project has also recently agreed to fund a newly established UN shelter for refugees who are victims of domestic violence. This shelter was at high risk of closure. Supporting this initiative not only employs the refugees, but helps empower these Chin women to help protect the vulnerable women and children in their own community.

Despite seeking refuge in Malaysia, the Chin refugees are classified as 'illegal migrants'. This is because Malaysia has not ratified the UN 1951 convention on refugees. Although many of the refugees possess a UNHCR card (which recognises them as an international refugee), they have very limited rights in Malaysia. It can take years to be given a UNHCR card, and even longer to be resettled into a third country. Over 40,000 ethnic Myanmar refugee women are currently seeking asylum in Malaysia. The Chin refugees have fled situations of tremendous violence and persecution in their country.

By allowing these towels to be sold in your school, you are not only supporting the refugees, but you are supporting empowerment and fair-trade.

Thank you for your help.

THE LOST TOWEL PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT REGISTERED ASSOCIATION 'PINK'



The Parents' International Welfare Association of Kuala Lumpur