



佛教慈濟功德會(新加坡)

BUDDHIST TZU CHI MERIT ORGANIZATION (SINGAPORE) LTD.

***MEDIA INFORMATION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**TZU CHI LAUNCHES FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
TO SUPPORT TÜRKIYE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF EFFORTS**



SINGAPORE, 16 FEBRUARY 2023: On February 6, southern Türkiye and the borders of Syria were hit by a powerful earthquake measuring a magnitude of 7.8 on the Richter scale, killing more than 40,000 people. Springing into action, Tzu Chi (Taiwan) immediately launched its international disaster relief protocol, donating 25 tons of thickened blankets, hoping to protect the victims from the sub-zero winter temperatures in Türkiye. Four days later on February 10, Tzu Chi's first volunteer team arrived in Istanbul, Türkiye, and swiftly began a disaster assessment and rescue operation with local volunteers.

On February 15, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Merit Organization (Singapore) Ltd. was given approval by the government to officially launch a fundraising campaign lasting till March 31, 2023, titled "Send Love to Türkiye". Tzu Chi is grateful for the trust given by Singaporeans. Upon hearing about the earthquake, many came forward to enquire about donation channels. Some even started raising money from relatives and friends, while waiting patiently for the approval of the fundraising permit.

At present, about 8,000 houses have collapsed or been damaged in the disaster area, with more than 90,000 people seriously injured. In order to raise more funds, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Merit Organization (Singapore) Ltd. has plans to hold street fundraising all over the island on the weekends of end February and early March.

In the short-term, Tzu Chi (Taiwan) will be distributing supermarket gift cards to local survivors and Syrian refugees stranded in Türkiye, allowing them to shop in chain stores that do not sell alcohol and tobacco. The donations raised by Tzu Chi from all over the world will also be used to provide medium and long-term assistance to the victims most in need.

Master Cheng Yen, founder of Tzu Chi, is pained by news of the victims having to endure through the severe cold and suffering, and hope that everyone can come together to spread their love. With the fundraising goal set at SGD\$1 million, we hope it will play a part in the overall relief efforts and alleviate the sufferings of those affected.

For interested parties, donations can be made through the following channels:

- 1) [Fundraising page](#) – PayNow and Cheque
- 2) In person at [Jing Si Hall](#) Level 1 Reception – Cash, PayNow and Cheque
- 3) [GIVE.asia](#)

*Please make your cheque payable to “TZU CHI MERIT ORGANIZATION” and indicate your full name in English (and Chinese if available), address, and “Send Love to Türkiye” on the reverse side of the cheque.

*Please indicate “Send Love to Türkiye” in your PayNow donation.

*All charitable donations for this fundraising campaign are not eligible for tax rebates.

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ABOUT BUDDHIST TZU CHI MERIT ORGANIZATION (SINGAPORE) LTD.

The Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation is a global non-profit humanitarian organisation founded in 1966 by a Buddhist nun named Dharma Master Cheng Yen in Taiwan. Its missions of charity, medicine, education, humanistic culture and environmental protection has brought relief to over 100 countries.

Established in 2016, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Merit Organization (Singapore) Ltd. carries out aid work and religious activities that benefit people and bring forth the spirit and essence of Buddhism. As a registered charitable organisation, it provides humanitarian aid to those in need overseas, regardless of their race and religion. Its relief efforts are funded by locally-raised funds and carried out in accordance

with the Law and regulations. The heart of Tzu Chi is embedded in its name: in Chinese, “tzu” means compassion and “chi,” relief.

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For more information, please visit us at:

- Website: www.tzuchi.org.sg/en
- 官方网站: www.tzuchi.org.sg
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/tzuchisg
- Instagram: [instagram.com/tzuchisg](https://www.instagram.com/tzuchisg)
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