

WE STILL NEED YOUR CASH, SAYS EXPERT

Aid worker heads back to tent city

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by **SUNITA BHATTI**

T&A Reporter

A Bradford aid worker is preparing to return to an area devastated by earthquake next month to start making plans for long-term reconstruction.

Yousaf Razaq is a project co-ordinator for the Human Relief Foundation (HRF) based in Great Horton.

He spent six weeks setting up a tent village in Muzaffarabad, Kashmir, immediately after the earthquake hit. Now Thuri Park, along the bank of the Neelam River, is home to 2,116 people.

Over the past four months it has been visited by UN secretary general Kofi Annan as well as Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf and Pakistani Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz.

So far, the charity has spent £73,500 providing food, shelter, toiletries, cooking gas cylinders and other essentials. The charity is committed to keeping the park running until May, so a further £25,000 to £30,000 will be spent before then.

Although four months have passed since the earthquake hit, the need for supplies and donations has not gone away and the survivors still need clothing, bedding, food and water.

"HRF needs ongoing support to keep this village running and I urge people out there to dig deep in their pockets," said Mr Razaq.

"Every penny counts; you can all help. Be creative and imaginative with fundraising events: raise money in various ways through your friends, family, relatives and the community, through your school, your workplace. Every penny counts and every second counts." Mr Razaq expects to visit the tent village next month to reassess the situation with government officials.

"The tent village is only a temporary measure and these people do not want to live in these tents all their life," he said.

Mr Razaq is hoping to find out whether it is possible to move the villagers from Thuri Park back into Muzaffarabad.

HRF has been supported by a number of different organ-



RELIEF: Yousaf Razaq, left, says the camp, above, still needs essentials like gas, right. Below, Pakistan Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz visits the camp.



Telegraph & Argus

SOUTH ASIA



EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION

You can make a donation to the appeal through any branch of the HSBC bank which should be paid into:

T&A South Asian Earthquake Appeal, Account No: 33924556 branch sort code 40-13-15

You can also send cheques or postal orders c/o Anne Dransfield, Editor's Secretary, Telegraph & Argus, Hall Ings, Bradford, BD1 1JR. Cheques should be made payable to: T&A South Asian Earthquake Appeal.

laboration and dedicated commitment from all these organisations," said Mr Razaq.

"Once again I, on behalf of HRF, am thankful and grateful to all, including donors from the UK and, most importantly, the sheer support and charitable hand from the Bradford community."

Anyone who wants to donate should make cheques payable to the Human Relief Foundation and send them to:

HRF, Freepost BD3125, PO Box 194, Bradford, BD7 1BR, UK, or visit www.hrf.co.uk, or telephone 08700 117 112.

You can donate to the Human Relief Foundation at Barclays Bank A/C: 70 55 40 22 - Sort Code: 20-11-81.

e-mail: sunita.bhatti@bradford.newsquest.co.uk

isations in setting up the tent village, including the World Health Organisation, the World Food Programme, Oxfam, UNICEF, Save the Children, Islamic Relief,

Caritas, the Red Crescent Society of the UAE, the UN and the US Army.

"Thuri Park tent village would not have been complete without the total col-