





## **Communities of RAHA express solidarity to the people of Japan**

The community members at a gathering in remote Mera Akora Khattak village in Nowshera and Haripur districts observed five minutes silence to mourn the deaths and lit candles to express solidarity to the victims of the tsunami in northeastern Japan.

More than 10,000 people were killed and 17,500 went missing after a 9.0 scale magnitude earthquake and tsunami hit northeastern Japan on March 11.



CO activists holding placards in Mera Akora Khattak Nowshera to show solidarity with Japanese

As Japan had been supporting Pakistan through all thick and thin, the news was received with shock all around Pakistan.

The Refugee Affected and Hosting Areas (RAHA) community organizations convened a special village assembly on March 23, 2011 to remember those who became the victims to the tsunami in Japan.

The meeting members passed a condolence resolution with consensus to share their sorrows and express solidarity to the people of Japan. The participants of the meeting were carrying placards inscribed with condolence messages like "We can't forget our Japanese brothers and sister and are with them in this hour of trial."



Community Organizations in Mera Akora Khattak paying homage to the victims of Tsunami

"We will always remember the help and favor that Japanese government and its people have extended for development of Refugees Affected & Hosting Areas in Akora," they displayed.

Nowshera, an important district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan, was also struck by the flash flood on July 28, 2010, completely destroying infrastructure and residential areas. The summer floods



CO activist lighting candles to remember people of Japan who died in Tsunami

had also rendered a large number of people of the Mera Akora Khattak union council of the district homeless.

The Refugees Affected and Hosting Areas Programme (RAHA) with the financial help of Government of Japan had organized fully equipped Free Medical Camps in Union Councils Haryana and Khazana at Peshawar District and Union Councils Mera Akora Khattak and Dagbehsud at Nowshera district for two months. With their help, food packages were also distributed among flood affectees in its programme target union councils Mera Akora Khattak and Dagbehsud.

The inhabitants of the food-hit area still remember and appreciate the efforts put into the flood-relief activities by the RAHA funded by Government of Japan.



Women community organizations in Darwesh Haripur sitting around the candles in the memory of Tsunami victims

In Haripur district, the female members of the union council Darwesh arranged condolence meeting to remember victims of tsunami in Japan. RAHA had completed various projects



Male CO workers observing silence and lighting candles to share the sorrows of Japanese people

including drinking water facilities and street pavements etc with the help of Japan in Haripur district.

The female activists from Community Organization Nasim Town Officers Colony lit candles to show solidarity with their Japanese sisters and brothers.

In their remarks, the activists said that with the help of Japan the female community members of five union councils in Haripur were trained in different skills.

They said they would not forget Japanese

support in their entire lives. They recalled that the Country Director of the UNDP Mr. Toshihiro Tanaka, who is also belonged to Japan, had visited them to look into their present situation.

They expressed their heartfelt condolences to the Country Director UNDP Mr. Toshihiro Tanaka over the sad demise of more than 10,000 people in Japan. Another meeting was organized by male Community Organisation Tameer Millat in union council Darwesh, Haripur on March 26, 2011 to express condolence and solidarity to the Japanese people.