# Sari Connection

Progress Report of Sari Recycle Project by **PARCIC** http://www.parcic.org

Volume 3

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It has been almost one year since we started to work on Sari Project to support women in Jaffna, and make a linkage between women in South and North. With your great support, we have collected nearly 2,000 saris so far, and participant women in Jaffna have developed their skills to make quality and variety of Up-Cycling products. Also, we have set up some places where you can see, touch and get our women's products. To enable the women to get back their life, we will continue to brush up their skills to produce fantastic Up-Cycling items, and expand the market for them.

# From South

#### Thank you for your contribution!



It is fascinating to meet those who are willing to contribute to our women with donating old saris. In addition to more than 80 individual donors, we have met 6 schools and 5 companies who kindly offered their resources to organize collecting old saris in their organization. Now we wish to construct a good relationship with them to keep supplying old saris to women in Jaffna, and that relationship can encourage them. Thank you very much to all our supporters again!!!

## Special event at Dutch Burgher Union



On 1st December 2013, we joined the exciting event at Dutch Burgher Bazaar organized by Dutch Burgher Union. It was one of the big bazaars for Christmas shopping in Colombo, so many people came and enjoyed it. Thanks to our friends, we had a great chance to show and sell our women's sari products there. We got useful feedback on our products for improving them. Thank you very much for everyone stopped at our stall to see us!!

**PARCIC** is a Japanese NGO working in Sri Lanka since April 2004 to support people in North and South. Please contact us or visit our web site for more information.

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### Support us

MORE SARIS we need. No more wearing Sari if you have in your closet, please contact us!

PLACE to SELL our products we are looking for. If you are interested in adding some of our sari products to your shop or showroom, please contact us!

# From North



Our members in front of the Uduthurai centre

Through this project, so far, more than 30 women have improved their sewing technique and more than 20 women have earned income. However, mostly their monthly income is less than SLR 3,000 and they need more income. To increase their income, PARCIC has been assisting women to improve their sewing techniques and to find the good market for their products.

#### Voices from our women

Mrs. Ranajani: I joined Sari Project and thank to this project which assisted me. Now I am getting income from this project, and now I can sew very beautiful dresses by myself. My husband is a fisherman, but he can't go fishing so much because he got burnt on his legs and body in a fire accident on the boat 10years ago. I have 6 children now, and I lost one in Tsunami. My main income source is making dry fish which was unstable work due to fish shortage, so sometimes I could not earn enough to look after my family. After joining this sewing work, I can get additional income, and I can spend the money from this work for my children's education and their needs.

Miss. Kamalini: I am Kamalini, and 28 years old. I lost my father during the war. I have mother and a brother. We are farming in our small farm, and from farming we can't earn enough for my family. But now, I joined this Sari Project. Just after I joined this project, it was difficult for me to learn sewing. However, Japanese volunteers came and taught how to make the dress, and now I became one of the good tailors in my team, and I can get more income. I use this money for my family needs, and I save small amount of them for my future. Thank you, PARCIC.

#### Products available at Thusare and Barefoot

Do you know where you can see the products which you support? Now we have two outlets for our women's products. One is in Colombo7, Thusare\*, Japanese Shiatsu Treatment Center (this is run by APCAS, Japanese NGO, to support blind people). At Thusare, some cloth items are available. The other one is Barefoot in Galle Fort where we have some bag items. Please drop at these outlets and see them when you have time! We keep trying to increase the number of shops so that you can see and touch our women's products. If you and your friends are interested in having our products at your shops or outlets, please contact us.

\*Thusare (SHIATSU is Japanese traditional massage)
Tel 0779-896183/0114-369967,
Address 103/12 Dharmapala Mawath, Colombo07



Our Eco bags at Barefoot in Galle Fort. It is good to reduce usage of plastic bags for the environment when you go shopping!