

Global Appeal 2009 to End
Stigma and Discrimination
against People Affected by Leprosy

GLOBAL APPEAL 2009

Leprosy is a disease as old as human history.
Its disfiguring effects struck fear in people's hearts.
Patients were ostracized for lack of an effective cure.
Now a cure exists, and it's available free of charge.
Diagnosed early and treated promptly, leprosy leaves no trace.
But mistaken beliefs about the disease persist.
They perpetuate social and economic discrimination.
This discrimination causes emotional and psychological pain.
To conquer this age-old stigma, drugs alone are not enough.
All of us must be part of the social healing process.
People affected by leprosy and their families have a right to a normal life.
Denying basic human rights to someone because he or she once had a disease is wrong.
Let us all join hands to eliminate fear, discrimination, and social stigma wherever they exist.
Let the healing begin today.

Global Appeal 2009 is an initiative of Yohei Sasakawa,
Chairman of The Nippon Foundation



His Eminence
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His Eminence
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His Eminence
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His Holiness
The 14th Dalai Lama
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The Very Reverend
John Robert Hall
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The Reverend
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The Reverend
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His Eminence
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His Eminence Rabbi
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The Chief Rabbi of Israel



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Cardinal Rosales
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His Holiness
Tep Vong
The Great Buddhist Supreme
Patriarch of the Kingdom of
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The Most Reverend
Desmond Tutu
Archbishop Emeritus of
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