

Money pouring in

Total \$ raised for twin tragedies: \$23 million (Latest available figures)

	CHINA	MYANMAR
Embassy	Chinese Embassy: \$8.7 million	Myanmar Embassy: Figure not available
Aid agencies	Singapore Red Cross: \$4million	Singapore Red Cross: \$4 million
	Mercy Relief: \$425,000	Mercy Relief: \$560,000
	Salvation Army*	Salvation Army: \$580,000
	World Vision Singapore**	World Vision Singapore: \$402,000
Big donations not going through the aid agencies	Singapore Buddhist Lodge: \$4 million	Catholic Church: \$260,000
Total	\$17.1 million	\$5.8 million

*Not conducting donation drive for China because Salvation Army Hong Kong is handling the effort

**Not conducting donation drive for China

S'poreans cross religious, racial lines to donate

The hat was passed around in mosques, temples and churches when the call was made to pitch in to help the victims of Asia's twin tragedies.

So far, the Singapore Buddhist Lodge charity has raised the biggest amount at \$4 million, boosted by a \$2 million donation by business tycoon Oei Hong Leong.

The money raised will be used to rebuild schools in China's quake-hit Sichuan province, said the charity's president, Mr Lee Bock Guan.

"It's very heartening to know

that Singaporeans will cross all racial and religious lines and boundaries to do good and help those in need...It's the compassion of Singaporeans that defines this country," he said.

The lodge, the Hindu Endowments Board and Jamiyah Singapore joined hands to canvass for funds within their institutions.

The three groups raised \$110,000 for cyclone-hit victims in Myanmar and handed the cheque to the Singapore Red Cross yesterday.

A total of \$103,435.11 was also collected from the 69 mosques

here and via the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore's website. The proceeds were for the Myanmar victims through the Singapore Red Cross.

Some churches, such as the Methodist Church of Singapore and New Creation Church, have dug into their own funds, donating \$50,000 and \$150,000 respectively to disaster efforts.

The Sikh Welfare Council also raised about \$11,000 for the China and Myanmar disasters through the prayer services held in the seven Sikh temples across the country on May 19.

Said Mr Hernaikh Singh, a council volunteer: "Disaster knows no boundaries and can strike anyone. For people in Singapore to rally together to help the victims of the two disasters is a reflection of how compassionate and gracious our society is."