

# Hope for Renewal

Photographs from Indonesia after the Tsunami

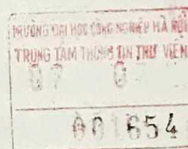
Images by Marco Garcia, featured in an East-West Center exhibition



EAST-WEST CENTER



"When I met people the first thing out of their mouths was 'salam alaikum' (peace be with you). Their faith never wavered. Their strength never dissipated. They held strong. Many told me it was God's will they lived, no one else's. Their strength, their belief, got them through."



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GIFT OF THE ASIA FOUNDATION  
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Proceeds from the sale of this book support tsunami relief efforts.

## Foreword

On a peaceful Sunday morning in Banda Aceh, Muslahuddin Daud made his way to his favorite fishing spot on the coastline of northern Sumatra. He had not been fishing long when the ground began to shake violently and coconut trees crashed against each other. He raced toward home just as a series of enormous waves generated by the tremor struck the coastal city and swept him away.

As he recounts at the end of this book, Muslahuddin, his wife, and daughter miraculously survived the devastation of December 26, 2004. But more than 225,000 people perished in 13 countries along the Indian Ocean.

Although a quarter of the world away in Honolulu, we at the East-West Center were deeply affected by the disaster. We have been working with the nations and peoples of the Asia Pacific region for 45 years, providing educational and exchange opportunities and conducting collaborative research projects. Many of our students, visiting scholars, and alumni come from tsunami-affected countries. One of our current students lost more than 100 relatives. Muslahuddin had participated in our program for young leaders.

In the days and weeks following the tsunami, we showed how large and caring our "East-West Center family," as Muslahuddin calls it, truly is. We immediately established an aid and rebuilding fund and on January 2 held what may have been the first concert

in the United States entirely devoted to tsunami relief. The residents of Hawai'i responded with generous financial support, as did our alumni chapters around the region and the public schools we work with across the United States.

The East-West Center Tsunami Relief Fund is benefiting organizations in India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Initially, funds were given to short-term relief efforts; now we are working closely with institutions to provide long-term support through our education and research programs.

What of the people whose lives have been changed forever by the tsunami? Six months after the disaster, an exhibition by Honolulu photographer Marco Garcia opened in the

East-West Center Gallery entitled "Hope for Renewal: Photographs from Indonesia after the Tsunami." Through his photographs you will see how the ordinary people of Aceh experienced and are coping with a truly extraordinary crisis. Their resilience and determination are an inspiration for our continued work in promoting an Asia Pacific community.

The East-West Center presents this book as a tribute to the memory of the dead and the courage of the survivors throughout the Indian Ocean region as they find new hope and rebuild their lives.

CHARLES E. MORRISON  
PRESIDENT, EAST-WEST CENTER

## East-West Center

The East-West Center is an education and research organization established by the U.S. Congress in 1960 to strengthen relations and understanding among the peoples and nations of Asia, the Pacific, and the United States. The Center contributes to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia Pacific community by serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education, and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the United States. Funding for the Center comes from the U.S. government, with additional support provided by private agencies, individuals, foundations, corporations, and the governments of the region.

### Publication Sales Office

East-West Center

1601 East-West Road

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848-1601 U.S.A.

Telephone: (808) 944-7145

Facsimile: (808) 944-7376

Email: [ewcbooks@EastWestCenter.org](mailto:ewcbooks@EastWestCenter.org)

Website: [www.EastWestCenter.org](http://www.EastWestCenter.org)

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