

SOKA GAKKAI DONATES FUNDS FOR KOSOVAR REFUGEE RELIEF

The Soka Gakkai Youth Peace Conference donated \$41,600 on April 9 to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees to help the agency provide emergency relief to the more than 620,000 people who have fled Kosovo. The funds will help provide food, water, health services, sanitation facilities and temporary shelter to refugees who have fled to neighboring Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Turkey.

“It is our sincere wish that this donation can help alleviate the suffering of displaced Kosovars,” said YPC Chairperson Hiroki Nagano when presenting the funds to UNHCR Representative for Japan, Mr. Gary Troeller, in Tokyo. Mr. Nagano conveyed SGI members’ heartfelt hope that the refugees will soon return home in safety and dignity.

Every year since 1973, the Soka Gakkai YPC has held annual fund-raising drives in support of refugees. In 1998, it donated \$286,885 for relief to refugees from Afghanistan, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Liberia.

— *CONGDON SMITH*