



# Akha Alert!

Vol. 1 No. 1

## Volunteers Needed!

**Help SAVE an Akha Village  
from losing all its land!**

**You CAN make a difference!  
Solidarity Camp - Chiangrai Province**

### **Ampur Mae Faluang, Chiangrai**

The Akha village of Hooch Yoh has been told by government personnel that it can no longer farm land that it has farmed for nearly 40 years. The villagers have been given no say in this process.

A very large number of Akha people are immediately effected, 250 families, 1019 people.

We can stop this process but we need your help. We need observers to come and stay at Hooch Yoh Akha village.

Surely you are aware of how much the hill tribe are advertised and promoted for tourism in Thailand? Seldom getting any money for how their images are exploited, these villagers deserve better than this.

The village of Hooch Yoh is totally dependent on farming rice, corn and other food crops. Villagers are told they will not be compensated for lost land, that they have no appeal. Eight villagers who

continued farming their lands were fined \$4000 (US) apiece as an "example". If they do not pay they will be put in prison.

Large numbers of Akha women can be seen selling wares in the street around the Chiangmai night market. These Akha women come from villages in the same region as Hooch Yoh village and have also lost their land. Instead of being home with their families at night, they have traveled to Chiangmai, living in shacks, trying to make enough money to send back to their children.

Trekkers and buyers of artwork know little of what is befalling these people while they continue to struggle for survival.

Please do your part to help protect their traditional way of life. Your presence and assistance can make a world of difference to the village of Hooch Yoh Akha.

This is NOT a missionary project.

***Taking the farm land away from the  
Akha people is forcing them to live in  
poverty on the streets of Chiangmai.***

***There is NO 'safety net'.***

***Amnesty International says the most vulnerable  
are "not protected".***

**Join Now!**

***akha@akha.org***

***http://www.akha.org***

### **What You Can Do!**

Come to Chiangrai, join the protest camp.

Help spread the word internationally

Write up a report - press release

Do internet research - write emails

Contact your friends in Thailand

Write letters to your home paper

Contact your congressman or MP

Write a letter to your embassy

Help make T-Shirts for villagers

Help print stickers and posters

Donate vitamins or food

Help build a training structure at the village

Teach English

Photography work

Video work

Work as an observer

Donate



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