



**Hard work:** Yayasan Pelajar Johor students working tirelessly to dispose furniture damaged by the floods.



**Joint effort:** Several volunteers working together to clear rubbish at Kampung Kangkar Tebrau Kiri.

# Massive clean-up by volunteers

They spend two days removing 2,500 tonnes of rubbish in eight villages



Taking a break: Volunteers  
Tireless effort: Volunteers

**Dateline: Johor**  
By MD HANAFI HANAFIAH  
newsdesk@thestar.com.my  
Photos by ABDUL RAHMAN  
EMBONG

»The fact that I can do something to ease their burden instead of just watching them in the news gives me a little satisfaction«

NIZAMUDIN HILMI ABD RAZAK

A TOTAL of 1,740 people from various sectors turned out in full force to carry out a massive *gotong-royong* to clean up Kangkar Tebrau, Johor, which was ravaged during the two waves of floods.

The volunteers, from the various government and non-government agencies, the private sector and even students, took two days to

remove some 2,500 tonnes of rubbish during the massive clean-up involving eight villages.

"We do not want the littered rubbish to pose a health threat to people living here," said Johor Baru city mayor Datuk Bandar Mohd Naim Nasir, who led the *gotong-royong*.

"The number of volunteers who turned up was encouraging," he added.

A volunteer from a local college,

hotel management student Nurdiana Nordin, 21, said she was overcome with emotion when she saw the destruction caused by the floods.

"This is worse than I had imagined," she said, adding that she was happy to contribute in cleaning up the place.

Her course mate, Nizamudin Hilmi Abd Razak, 22, echoed similar sentiments when he said he, too, was happy he could help.

"The fact that I can do something to ease their burden instead of just watching them in the news gives me a little satisfaction," he said, adding that he was motivated to volunteer after reading about the plight of the flood victims in the newspapers.

Another volunteer, Juanita Abu Anuar, 21, said she would definitely help again if the need arose.

"I will not hesitate to lend a hand if there is still more work to be done because I know they are suffering not only from material losses but also emotionally," she said.

She added that she felt proud to make a difference in the lives of others.

For 22-year-old Nurasyikin Mohamed, it was not the last time as she plans to do more volunteer work and commit herself to helping flood victims.

"I can imagine their plight even though I did not share their fate," she said, adding that she was grateful her area was not hit by the floods.

**Nurdiana:** She was overcome with emotion when she saw the destruction.



Caring for the needy: A Johor Baru City Council

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# Volunteers

in eight villages



**Taking a break:** Volunteers (above) having lunch in a sampan.

**Tireless effort:** Volunteers (left) washing furniture and other mud-covered items.



**Caring for the needy:** A Johor Baru City Council worker washing furniture covered thickly with mud.