

# Oasis Coffins



Beautifully hand-crafted Fair Trade coffins and ash-urns, made from sustainably-sourced natural materials in rural Bangladesh



[www.oasiscoffins.com](http://www.oasiscoffins.com)

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Oasis Coffins offer a meaningful way for families to say goodbye to their loved ones. Beautifully hand crafted, strong and tasteful, each coffin represents vital employment to families in an area of Bangladesh, blighted by poverty. All our designs mean that the coffin can be interwoven with flowers and foliage to provide a uniquely personal presentation. Not only are our products good for the community we work with, they are good for the environment too.

For example, our bamboo coffin is made from a locally grown source which is sustainably managed and harvested in Bangladesh. Bamboo itself is a rapidly renewable resource, absorbing carbon dioxide very efficiently, and it also grows on land unsuitable for food production. All the materials used in their manufacture are 100% bio-degradable. When considering your green funeral arrangements, Oasis Coffin products are a fitting tribute to the deceased and a meaningful way to say goodbye.

# Our Products

all our products are hand woven onto a solid bamboo frame and thoroughly tested to carry up to 160 kgs (22 stone)



# Oasis Coffins



## Our Materials



The willow used in our coffins is sourced from managed and known sources. The willow is hand-woven in Bangladesh onto a frame made from locally sourced bamboo.



Our bamboo has been sourced from locally grown bamboo plants, which have been sustainably managed and harvested in Bangladesh according to best practice.



Seagrass, known locally as "hogla", grows abundantly along the banks of freshwater rivers and floodprone land and is available from managed resources in the Noakhali district of Bangladesh.

## Environmental Care

We are located in a low-lying country (Bangladesh), and are very aware of the impact of global warming. We are passionately committed to leadership in sustainability, and minimising the impact of our activities on the environment.



Developing a "Life-Cycle Analysis" approach to minimising the contribution made to carbon emissions from all of our activities.



Sourcing all of our natural materials from people we know well, and with whom we have genuine relationships.



Maximising the utilisation of natural materials and plant-based dyes, minimising water and electricity consumption,



Use of clever design techniques to ensure effective packing of products for the sea transport.



Minimising international travel by air, and maximising use of public transport.





# Our Story

The manufacture of all our range of products provides much-needed, meaningful employment to help transform the lives of families in Bangladesh. Oasis Coffins has set up its production unit in Nilphamari district of Bangladesh, which suffers from seasonal unemployment.

## Fair Trade

Representatives from **Traidcraft**, the UK's largest Fair Trade organisation, have conducted a rigorous assessment of the business on location in Bangladesh, and are pleased to endorse all of the coffins and urns produced by Oasis as Fair Trade. Ongoing assessments will be made to ensure that these high standards are maintained. Locally, Oasis is an active member of the Fair Trade Forum in Bangladesh.

*"Our assessment shows that Oasis has fully embraced the ten principles of Fair Trade in its policies and working practices. We're delighted to see that Oasis is making such a practical and positive social impact in a region of real poverty. This is a strong example of Fair Trade helping to transform lives and providing hope through the opportunities offered."*

-Larry Bush,  
Marketing Director, Traidcraft



**Salma** (name changed) is a former leprosy patient with three children and a husband without regular income. For years she worked as a house maid to support the family while they lived in a very basic bamboo hut with a thin plastic polythene roof.

Since joining Oasis Coffins in 2009, Salma has built on the tailoring skills she received during her treatment with the Leprosy Mission. Through regular savings she has purchased a small piece of land, paid off loans, built a home, and put her children in school.



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## Other products and materials

We are able to sustainably source other natural materials such as banana leaf, water hyacinth, and rattan, and to develop new products to order using these materials.

We have our own purpose-built production centre in Bangladesh, and are fully equipped to supply products anywhere in the world.

*Oasis Coffins*

partnering in the UK with:



partnering in the Netherlands with:



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