



# Mission among children and youth in Tanzania

Led by missionary couple Tabitha and Torkild Jensen  
send by Betania Kirkecenters Ydremission

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## Dear faithful friends,

**We have just returned from the hospital, where we saw Mama Sofia and her six year old daughter (the family that was badly burned). We were more or less in shock when we saw the condition of the mother. She was sitting in a wheelchair, was very weak and looked out of it.**

In our last newsletter we mentioned very briefly about the tragic accident that happened to the family of our guard Loriku in Maasai land. We have written quite a bit on our website, but many of our dear readers of the newsletter have not heard so much. This is why we give you an update here so you can follow the situation of the Maasai family, whom still need a lot of prayers.

Friday evening on 31st of August our Maasai guard knocked on our door. He sat down on the steps outside of our house and buried his head in his hands and cried loudly. Torkild asked, "Loriku, what happened?" He continued to cry like a little baby and tried to explain.

He told us that a horrible accident had happened to his family, "A big explosion happened in the kitchen while my wife was cooking! I do not know if my wife and children will survive, please can you help me?"

He further explained that his wife had put some oil into the kerosene lamp that had run empty while cooking. After she had filled the lamp she turned it



on again and suddenly it exploded. The oil splattered over them and in seconds their clothes were on fire. The accident happened while she was sitting with her two year old son on her lap. The girl age six sat next to her mother and was watching.

Due to the long drought in Maasai land there is no water around so they were not able to extinguish the fire in their clothes. The neighbours tried to put off the fire by putting earth on them.

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Husk at mærke indbetalingen MBU.TZ



We had two of our people rush to the Maasai's to pick them up and bring them to the hospital in Arusha. It is a 200km trip both ways. Our driver said he had never in his life driven so fast. Our people were in shock when they saw the mother and the children. They could see how seriously burned they were especially in the face, on arms and legs.

Torkild drove to the hospital to inform them of the accident. They were very friendly at the hospital and were quick to mobilize two doctors and six

nurses who were ready to receive them as they arrived. Torkild was at the emergency unit when they were admitted and said he had never seen anything like it in his life. The poor people were screaming with pain. When they took the clothes off Loriku's wife, her skin peeled off like when you peel a banana, and the smell was terrible with burnt skin.

The doctors and nurses worked intensely for four hours with the three burn victims. One doctor looked Torkild deep in the eyes and said, "We will do everything we can to save them all, but it takes a miracle from God in this situation." All three were put into the intensive care unit where they were placed in something that looked like igloo tents, and left without clothes to cool them off.

We had them admitted to a private mission hospital and they were well taken care of. Unfortunately there is no hospital in Tanzania for burn victims. We are grateful to all of you who have supported us economically and made it possible to give them the best medical care possible here.



Unfortunately, the little boy did not make it as his burns were so severe and after 12 days he died. Little Lomani had a beautiful funeral, but Loriku's family was moved by the fact that the mother and daughter were still in hospital and could pass away any minute as well.

Later on I had a long conversation with Loriku regarding his little boy who died. I used the picture of an avocado and told them that an avocado is an example of our body. Both are temporary, but inside the avocado there is a seed and it will



grow and a tree will come up. The same thing can be said about our soul inside our bodies, "Your little boy is with Jesus now, and there he has been given a new body. He is doing wonderful, without any pain and he is waiting for the day that the rest of you will join him in heaven." Loriku understood. He is a real Maasai and normally he will not hear about Jesus, but he has changed so much after all that happened.

One day we came to visit at the hospital and Loriku had just participated in prayer at the hospital. The hospital has a prayer room where those who wish can meet and pray. It was hard to believe that Loriku really decided to go there. It shows us that God is at work in his heart.

The situation at present: The girl is doing really well and has started walking around. I brought her a small gift one day, a teddy bear and a Barbie doll. The box could be used as a bed. She was so happy and beamed like the sun.



Unfortunately the mother is not doing well. We felt terrible to see her hanging in the chair like that. She is regularly given blood and the doctors cannot understand why she is losing so much blood. Her scars are drying on the body in front and on the arms, but on her back and hips and back of her head it looks like bed sores now. Thank you so much for your continued prayers for the long recovery of the mother.

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## Dedication of the new school

**On Tuesday October 2nd 2012 we dedicated our new school where we currently have 50 students.**

Even though the whole school is not finished yet we dedicated the classrooms and the big hall that have been completed. The hall will also be used as children's church for the local children.



We had an unforgettable day where we also had the great joy to have visitors: our Pastor Morten Patzalek from Bethania Kirkecenter in Blaaohj, Preben and Gudrun Hansen, and Torben and Dorrit Madsen. Morten was the guest speaker and spoke to a big gathering.

Torkild and I were given the honour of cutting the cord as a sign of the official dedication and also to present the plate of memory where it states who founded the school.

The students were so pretty in their school uniforms and sang so lovely in English, "Welcome to our school, Tumanini...." (Tumanini means HOPE).



There were representatives from the local authorities who came to celebrate together with us. They expressed how pleased they were for finally getting a school in their town, which used to be a village, but over the past few years it has grown to be a rather large town. The parents of the students were also present in big numbers.

As mentioned, there are currently 50 students, but we hope that the number of students will increase at the beginning of the new school year (January 2013) since the school has now been approved by the Ministry of Education.



Peter Madsen ended the ceremony by praying for the Lord's blessing to be upon the school. He also prayed that the students would not only receive a lot of useful knowledge, but that the school leadership might acknowledge their spiritual responsibility and also give the children a solid Christian training. We ended the celebration with a big meal for all attending.



The construction of the school will continue as two additional classrooms need to be ready for the new start of the school year in January.

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## The woman who wished for a new wheelchair

**God is fantastic. In our previous newsletter we wrote about a woman sitting in a wheelchair that was totally worn out and almost impossible to use.**

I want to extend a big thank you to those of you who sponsored a completely new wheelchair! When she received the wheelchair she cried tears of gratitude rolling down her cheeks and gave thanks to the Lord who had seen her need.

Now she can drive around the village by herself instead of crawling or being carried by others. As she said, it was the biggest day of her life to get



such a beautiful wheelchair and become mobile. Wilson, who is assisting us with the children's campaigns, helped buy the different items.

As you might recall, the husband of the handicapped woman had been bitten by a poisonous snake and had his leg amputated at the knee. He had made a wooden prosthetic. But he constantly had a lot of pain in his leg when he walked around on it as it did not fit properly.

We arranged for him to get to the big national hospital in Dar es Salaam to have measurements taken for a new prosthetic leg that some friends in Denmark had sponsored.



The man was overwhelmed as it was his first time to ever go to a big city. From living in a mud hut with grass roof to be standing in a big city with skyscrapers and lots of cars instead of donkeys, cattle and goats was a very intense experience for him.

He got a new prosthetic leg including a week of rehab at the hospital before returning to his village. The prosthetic leg was so well made that one would almost think it is a real leg.

The man that had never had much of an interest in God said for the first time that now he had seen the love of God for both him and his family. He also said, "On Sunday I will take my family with me to church as we need to go and give thanks to the Lord." Isn't it wonderful that through practical help we can show people how God cares about all of us?

These events have put the village into motion; even the mayor of the village came to congratulate the couple with what had happened.



On top of all this the family was given a double bed with two new mattresses. They never had that before. When Torkild went to see them the first time, the whole family slept on animal skins spread out on the floor.

We mentioned earlier about the pastor in the village. He was given some money for a goitre operation. He will soon receive a draft for treatment from the hospital.



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## Mirjam writes

### It is wonderful to be back and to be with my family.

We miss Rebekka though, but are grateful that she is doing so well in Denmark and has settled well.

There was work waiting for me from day one, as we had to empty two containers. I am excited to be back and to be able to help my parents in their mission work.

Recently I went to Mswakini to see how things were with my dear Maasai friends. As I left for Denmark in June, the rains had started, the lake was full and the situation looked promising.

But I must admit that I was shocked to see how once again the drought had hit again! The rain stopped shortly after my departure and only few people received a harvest of a little maize and even fewer had been able to harvest some beans. The lake, which is the water supply of the whole area to both humans and animals is almost dried out, so if there is no rain before Christmas, they will have no more water.



asked the village chairman how the situation with pumping water for the village was. He told me that their 40 year old water supply system had broken down. The five return valves on the main pipe that are totally worn out, so the water is running backwards resulting in the pipeline being burst in three

places. I so would like to be able to give them five new return valves, but they cost 2000 DKK each. If any of you would want to support the change of these valves so we can pump water again, please mark the money "Water Maasai".

Thank you for your support of our ministry! It is wonderful to know that together we can reach people in need and together we can make a difference in their lives. May the Lord richly bless you!

With love,  
Mirjam

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## Christmas is just around the corner

### We would like to wish all of you, our dear beloved friends, a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

We feel a great need to tell you a giant Thank You for all your prayers and support in the year that is almost gone. May the Lord Jesus bless you abundantly!

We look forward to a new year with its new challenges, even though we do not know the future. When we put our faith in the Lord every day, then He has promised that He will never let us down.



With love,  
**Tabitha og Torkild**



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## After deadline – Sad news

**After the deadline of this newsletter we received a message in the middle of the night on Tuesday November 20th at 3 a.m. that Mama Sofia, Loreku's wife had passed away due to her severe burns.**

Earlier that day we had received a phone call from Loriku who told us that unfortunately his wife had been transferred to the intensive care unit once again, as her condition had worsened again. We immediately decided to go to the hospital to see Mama Sofia.

It was evident that her last energy was slowly dying out. I, Tabitha, stood at her bed, took her hand and stroke her lovingly on the arm.

I talked to her and suddenly I had eye contact with her. She blinked several times to tell that she could hear what we were saying. It appeared to be a holy and special time for us where we were able to say our goodbyes to her.

We participated in the funeral with all our workers out in Mswakini.

We hoped to the end that God would work a miracle for her and heal her. But the Lord knew what was best for her.



### Regler for skattekvitteringer

SKAT kræver, at vi som beløbsmodtager skal indberette CPR-nr. på alle indbetalte beløb for den enkelte giver.

Dermed vil beløbet automatisk fremgå af det kommende års selvangivelse. For at opnå fradrag skal missionskassereren derfor have dit CPR-nr. og navn.

Har du brug for mere information om dette, kan du kontakte ham på email:

ymission@stofanet.dk, pr. tlf. 75353058 eller pr. brev til Willy Højgård, Søndermarksvej 307, 7190 Billund.

I 2012 kan man få fradrag i henhold til skattelovens § 8a på op til kr. 14.500,00, hvis man har givet kr. 15.000,00.