



Mission among
Children and Youth
in Tanzania

June 2015



Led by missionary couple Tabitha og Torkild Jensen stationed by Betania Kirkecenters Ydremission



Dearly beloved friends,

Recently, Torkild and the team were on their way to a children's crusade deep in the bush. The road was very bad and they had to stay overnight in a guest house, as they could not reach the village on the same day. In the evening we talked on the phone and then Torkild went to bed and fell asleep after a tiring day.

In the middle of the night there is a knock on his door, but since he is deeply asleep he wakes up confused, thinking, "It's probably someone knocking on the neighbor's door." The knocking gets louder and he gets out of bed. Cautiously, he looks out the window and in terror he sees four men with machine guns. His heart begins to race and he thinks, "It is probably a gang that wants

to steal the car, and now they want the car keys to the car and the trailer."

He opens the door and it appears that instead it is the secret police dressed in civilian clothes. They are looking for a dangerous person who fled from jail. They believe he is still in town. Torkild is asked some questions. When he informs them of what he is doing in Tanzania they all get very nice and apologize. Nevertheless, they want to see the room just in case the person has hidden himself in there. All the rooms in the guest house are being searched.

The team members that travelled with Torkild were all upset at the episode and it was hard to go back to sleep, but they thanked Jesus for His protection.

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Pioneering Pastor

Pioneering pastor John Ikayo and his wife whom we have known for many years, have planted several churches in Muslim dominated areas. The last church they established now has 150 members. John and his family have moved on to a new area and the church there has already 72 members. He is being mightily used by God to reach people in places with very little Christian activity. It was this village that Torkild and the team were heading to, when they had the eerie experience in the guest house.

As they arrived at the village where they were to have the children's crusade, they were in for a royal reception. The pastor and his wife and many of the church members met them on the outskirts of the village where

they were singing and dancing, and waving some cut off branches. What a reception. The team was deeply moved. Many in the village came out of the huts to see what was happening. No one was in doubt that something extraordinary was going to take place during that week.

Meetings in the afternoon and evening were all so well attended that Torkild thought there could not be many people left in the cottages. Children as well as adults were very hungry for the word of God. It was such a joy to teach them. On Sunday, seven new believers came to the service and in the afternoon two more people who wanted to become Christians, came to see the pastor. Many children were led in a prayer of salvation. The pastor was very encouraged by the large attendance. He believes in a great harvest and is already working on the follow-up.





Church dedications

From January to April this year, Torkild and Friedhelm had 27 church dedications. What a blessing for small congregations in poor villages to receive a church building.

I, Tabitha, have been left alone quite a bit these months because it is convenient to do a series of dedications on the same trip in order to avoid extra driving. Many long and beautiful roadtrips have been taken into different parts of Tanzania. All honor to God for His protection on the roads. I do my best to make sure that the trips are as comfortable as possible and provide home-made cake with coffee every day during this time.

Church dedications usually finish with a meal. A person gets up and declares: "Now we will enjoy a delicious cake!" Then they roll in a table with a barbecued goat.



We Europeans get very disappointed the first time this happens because we think that now we will get some coffee and some delicious cake!

The man with tuberculosis

A mother of three came to our home one day to ask for help. She told us that her husband was seriously ill with tuberculosis. We decided to visit the family and to get an idea of the man's condition. When we heard his coughing, we had no doubt that he was seriously ill. He showed us the X-rays of his lungs, which did not look good. In particular, one lung was very severely attacked. The man is a skilled bricklayer, but is no longer able to work because the disease has taken all his strength. He





for that, but the money had run out for the family. There was no money for food, and the situation was hopeless. We decided immediately that we wanted to help them. They all wept with joy when we said goodbye.

We have now received donations for this family and we are grateful for the support that we have received from you, our dear friends. The small family is now living a normal life and they have food to eat every day. We recently spent

time with them again and we told them the good news that we intend to support them with a year's rent and help with food and with tuition for their middle daughter, Regina, so that she can enroll in 1st class in our new school. The father took our hands and said with tears: "Since I met you and you promised to help us, I can sleep at night again because there is no longer any worry about how to survive."

should have consulted a doctor a long time ago, but he considered it a heavy cold that would disappear by itself. He is now under medical treatment throughout the next year and we pray that he be healed so that he can return to work and even take care of his family.

The mother has been given a three-hour job at the school every afternoon, where she help clean the classrooms. She is very happy for the job and she too is very much encouraged. Thank you for helping support this family.

After we had learned of the stricken family's situation, we immediately decided to help them. They were facing major challenges. These included several months rent in arrears and the landlord had told them that they should move out as soon as possible, otherwise he would throw them on the street. Their oldest boy is in 7th grade, but had been sent home from school (a local school) because he had no uniform. Parents must pay





Snakebite

Mama Oberline is a poor widow with five children age 11-20 years. This woman had a tragic accident recently. Over the past weeks Tanzania has had some heavy showers and many places were flooded including this woman's house. On the first morning after the rainfall she was going to make some tea for the children before they went off to school. She wanted to take some firewood to light a fire in the fireplace that consisted of three stones.

As she was reaching for a piece of wood she discovered with terror that a big cobra had hidden in the stack of wood and before she had time to run away it had bitten her leg, which immediately began to swell. The cobra had probably crawled into the stack of wood because of the flood.

Mama Oberline cried out for help and immediately a neighbor came running and tied something tight around her leg so that the poison should not spread in the body. The neighbor quickly called for more help and she was taken by motorbike to the nearest minibus, which again took her to the hospital. As she reached the hospital, the poison had spread around the whole body and she was beginning to turn blind and on the verge of unconsciousness.

Fortunately, the hospital had some serum against snakebites and they gave her some shots. She stayed in the hospital for several days as the situation was critical and her life was endangered.

Unfortunately, no one managed to kill the snake and therefore the family is afraid that it may return to the shed.

This is all a month ago now and mama Oberline has recovered reasonably after the incident. Her eyesight is slowly returning, but the leg is still numb and therefore



she is unable to go back to work. She used to be a day-laborer working in the fields, washing clothes or the like. These jobs have provided her with money for food.

The problem is that the children are afraid to sleep in the shed, which is very leaky and therefore snakes can easily get in and hide.

We recently went to see her again and to inspect the situation. The shed is divided in two, partly kitchen and partly bedroom for the children.

Before the father passed away, he had been building a small brick house with two rooms. For several years, it remained in the state as shown in the picture and we were surprised to see that the walls still look fine. We very much would like to help this widow. This is why we want to help her finish the house, so that the children may have a safe bedroom, where they do not have to be afraid of snakes. The costs to put on a roof, refurbish the walls, lay a floor and put in doors and windows will amount to approx. DKK 15,000. At the moment, the children sleep at the house of a neighbor until a solution is found.

The oldest of the boys is a mechanic apprentice, and it will take him three years to finish. When he is done, it is our hope that he will get a good job and help take care of his mother. Two of the boys are in secondary school and the last one in elementary school.

We just had to share this experience with you all. Our hearts yearn to help the poor family finish the house. Frequently, we have seen the truth in the old saying, "Every little makes a big stream!" May it also be true in this case.

The word of God says: **"He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD ..."** Prov. 19:17.

Love Home

The Love Home is almost finished. We are in the process of painting rooms, and soon railings will be put up. The children are excited. After the summer break we will make two more classrooms. We need your prayers for this project – that the money must come in.



Bladet videresendes ikke, men tilbagesendes med oplysning om adresseændring



Otherwise, we are in good health and are doing well - all honor to God.

Thank you, all our dear friends who stand with us in the ministry here in Tanzania. Your financial support and your concern for the many needy is the reason why we can keep doing what we do. May Jesus richly bless you and reward you back.

Love from Torkild and Tabitha



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 2015 kan man få fradrag i henhold til skattelovens § 8a på op til kr. 15.000,00, hvis man har givet kr. 15.000,00.