



Newsletter

Medjugorje International Relief - July 2007

Ulaan Baatar...Outer Mongolia

Bolro's story...from Fr Gabriel (Director of VCC). The story started in 96 when Bolro and her elder brother were brought to the VCC by their mum, a mother of 3, who could not feed them any more and who had no place to keep the three kids after she has lost every belonging in the transition period.



The husband became an alcoholic and eventually died of drinking. The mother could not find a place in the new Mongolian society so she started working as guard at the entrance of apartment blocks. She has to change continually as this is not a stable job. It all depends on the mood of the block manager and you get your salary from monthly contributions of some good residents. Soon it became obvious that she could not take care of the three children and bringing them all around the city became burdensome. Two of the children (Bolro and Amarsana) ended at the VCC amongst the very first children ever in the Center.

They then belonged to the very first group of children that attended the kindergarten being resident of VCC. They were different from other kids and very often kindergarten did not like them very much. They were already a bit used to the hard life, fighting and the insecurity of not having enough pushed them to save for themselves whatever foodstuff they had the chance to come cross. Slowly after the kinder, Bolro went through the primary school up to the

grade 8. She isn't a very bright student and yet she manages to get ahead.

More than 10 years have passed and Bolro and her brother have grown up very much and they are all in college now. If there is one sequence, she always recalls it is when, at 7 years old still in the kindergarten, she got lost and went back to the street again. She was already so much used to the street life

with her mum. It took us the whole day to look for her and finally find her in a manhole where she used to go with her mum. In her first days in the Center, she would like to keep everything she gets for herself, fighting with other kids was a daily headache.

Meanwhile her mum had very much adjusted to life as well. She is no longer on the streets. Being alone helped her to find casual jobs and take care of herself and thus the children could visit her very often on her job placement. Bolro enjoys visiting her mum and her attitude about life has changed a lot. She has confidence in herself and hope she would make it through college as an English language translator. Now she practices her English whenever she has the chance.

From the street to the college is a very long way!

You sent a further £500 to help their work with street children...

Recycling for India Student Sponsorship

The recycling goes from strength to strength with lots of new collectors of printer cartridges and aluminium and scrap; so this period we can sponsor another 3 students in India through the SVP scheme.

In all then 18 students have been sponsored over the years in a wide variety of courses and skills that have/ will lift them and their wider families out of the poverty trap, it's a great scheme and one that can continue to grow the more people get involved and start collecting

in their area from neighbours and friends.

Through your efforts you have trained, nurses, teachers, mechanics, computer operators etc which would have been an impossible dream to many of these youngsters without your hard work...Keep Collecting!

We also have an outlet now for old mobile phones and chargers.

Sudan - Christian Solidarity International. Slave Redemption Programme



One of the slaves, a young mother called Amou Kawac from Wotal Wol told CSI:

"The Arab militia came to my village early one morning in January 1995 while I was sleeping with my three children. We ran outside,

Free at last

but were immediately surrounded by Arabs on horses. We were forced to walk at gun-point. My blind husband was left behind. The raiders forced me to carry their booty on my head and my youngest child, Deng, on my back. My other two children Akok and Kawac had to walk behind us. They both died of thirst during the long march to Dogg, near Saddama. There Deng and I were separated. He went to the home of our captor, Abdullah, while I was sold to a man named Sama.

Sama already had two wives and used me as a concubine. He made me give birth to my little girl Achai. Sama was a cruel man who said his baby Achai was as worthless as the child of a dog. Sama beat me, while his wives made me



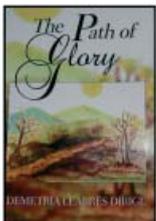
Supplies Arriving

and forced me to pray in the Islamic way. I tried to resist this, but they beat me with big bamboo sticks. One day, I ran away and found a man from my tribe who took me to an Arab trader. This trader bought me from Sama and then sent me here to Manyel with another trader.

CSI paid an Arab trader his expenses to secure the release of the mother and child. The 50,000 Sudanese pound price for each slave is roughly the equivalent of the local cost of two or three cows.

You have given £500 to CSI during this period which will free another 10 people from this unbelievable cruelty.

Homeless Project Manila-Philippines



About £90 was given for the work with homeless families in Manila carried out by the Jesus Cares Fellowship prayer group. One member of the group has just published a book of testimonies called "The Path of Glory", the proceeds of which will go to support various projects in the

Philippines. If anyone would like a copy of this, its £5 and we have some in the UK, or if we run out can tell you how to order a copy directly..more details about this on the website.

The stories are a magnificent collection of miracles, life changing experiences of the love of God and His healing touch in the lives of His children.

Probably the best fiver you'll ever spend.

New Website

The new website is being updated a bit at present and will include some new features including an expanded links section directing people to a range of good resources from Christian music, art, Music videos and the MIR CHANNEL as well as other good Catholic and Medjugorje sites. Also hope to include a section with written testimonies from around the world, the theme being "All over the world, the Spirit is moving" which should be a good resource for the soul too!

Manchester

Medjugorje International Relief
c/o 13 Erlington Ave Old Trafford
Manchester M16 0FN
Phone: 0161-881-5664

Midlands

Phone: 0791 379 4430

E-mail: mir_medjugorje@yahoo.co.uk
Web: www.mirmedjugorje.org