

ShareUpdate

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Emergency Humanitarian Relief Saves Lives in Turkana Land

The situation is real on the ground! Drought and famine have been reported in all parts of Turkana Land this year. Many of the local wells have dried up! People have to walk many miles to fetch water for themselves and their livestock. The dry weather is expected to get worse for an indefinite period of time, threatening thousands of lives. The dry conditions could also lead to increased cases of malnutrition, diarrhea, and cholera.

With the critical shortage of foodstuffs in the hinterland, hundreds of families have moved to town centers for survival. Our staff in Lodwar Township report meeting men, women, and children in desperate and dire need of food and water. As our staff makes every effort to distribute the limited foodstuffs and water available, the fact of imminent death has become a familiar reality, especially among the elderly and children.

In one incident, when the SI team went to deliver water in Kangkukus village (where SI helped plant a church in 2001), an elderly widow cried out to **Dalmas Esekon** (see “SICGP”):

“My child, I am hungry! Please give me something with which to buy food. I have gone three days without food. I can’t drink water on an empty stomach!”

Dalmas pleaded with her to drink some water, then prayed with her to trust God to provide food. SI delivered food in the village a few days later. Upon seeing the SI water truck in her village, another Christian resident exclaimed,

“God has sent us an angel, just like He appeared to the Children of Israel in the desert when they needed water!”

In a period of 14 days in March, SI distributed foodstuffs - 200 bags of dry corn and 40 bags of beans (220lb each) - to 9,513 people in 13 villages and delivered water to 5,000 people in 5 villages. Thank you for all your prayers and financial support.



Turkana women wait in line for foodstuffs

We invite you to buy as many bags of foodstuffs as the Lord may enable you at **\$40/bag of dry corn** and **\$85/bag of dry beans**. SI will deliver the foodstuffs to the Turkana people each time sufficient donations for 200 bags of corn and 40 bags of beans are received. Please indicate your support by checking the “**Emergency Humanitarian Relief Fund**” (EHRF) box in the enclosed response card, or click the “**Famine in Turkana**” link at www.shareinternationalinc.com to make your donation online.

STORM team ready for Turkana Land, Kenya

This year’s **Short-Term Outreach & Relief Mission (STORM)** will mark the 14th annual ministry trip among the Turkana people. The ministry will take place between **June 12th** and **27th**. The team of 19 Americans and 12 Africans will minister in the following areas:

1. **Teaching & Outreach:** Bible Exposition, Church History, Missions & Leadership, Evangelism, and Entrepreneurship.
2. **Women Issues:** Training the Trainer, Prayer, and Nutrition
3. **Medical:** Human and Veterinary.
4. **Humanitarian Relief:** Food distribution.



The team needs **\$36,100** to carry out these ministries. We kindly request you to prayerfully consider helping the team raise these funds **before May 20th, 2009**. Please indicate your support for STORM-2009 by checking the “**STORM**” box in the enclosed response card, or visit the “**Short-Term Outreach**” page at www.shareinternationalinc.com to make your donation online.

SI Church Growth Program (SICGP)
(By Dalmás Esekón & Peter Adir, SICGP Coordinators)



During the SI U.S. Board meeting in November 2008, it was decided that the SI Training & Missions Program (SITMP) and the SI Partnership Program (SIPP) be merged to form a single “**SI Church Growth Program**” (SICGP). From a New Testament perspective, “Church Growth” comprises the primary and necessary outreach pillars of the Church - Evangelism, Discipleship, Training, and Missions. These pillars characterized the Early Church. They will characterize SICGP.

The SI Team of Evangelism (SITE) and pastors from the existing SI-planted mother churches continue to venture into unreached territories in Turkanaland and witness many Turkana people put their faith in Christ each month. At the same time, more SI-trained missionary-pastors are being commissioned to “occupy the land” in those territories and establish churches as the Lord provides for their support through His people.



John Nakara baptizing new Turkana believers in Kodopa village in March

Between August 2008 and March 2009, an additional six of the 76 graduates of the former SI Missions Institute (SIMI-2006) were commissioned as missionary-pastors to new unreached territories, bringing the total of SI-supported missionary-pastors to ten! The six include:

Name	Village(s)	Distance & Direction from Lodwar
George Lokwawi	Nakepokan, Moruong' or, Nakingol	60km North, 75kms Northwest, & 90km Northeast respectively
Stephen Longor	Napusimoru	80km Southeast
John Lorukieny	Lochor-angerengo	140km Northwest
Peter Lomanat	Nayada	30km West
Michael Areman	Aposta, Lopiding, & Nakururum	125km Northwest
Moses Lotukoi	Lochor-emoit	47km South



Missionary John Auda receives donated bicycle from Peter Adir

The prevailing drought and famine in Turkana land the past one year has caused enormous migration and death, hampering outreach and discipleship, and reducing church attendance from **2,823** to **1,640** in the **51** churches that SI has been directly instrumental or facilitated in planting the past 13 years. Many of these churches meet under trees. We request prayers for moderate but consistent rains, and urgent provision of food to avoid further migration.

Lack of means of transportation for the missionary-pastors continues to be another major drawback in SI's outreach efforts. Ideally, dirt motorbikes are most suitable for both the terrain and long-distance outreach in Turkana land. But dirt bicycles have also been helpful for short distances. In January this year, one of the missionary-pastors - **John Auda** - received a \$150 bicycle donated by a Sunday School class in Iowa. Auda wrote:

"I, Missionary Auda, give thanks to the Lord for His abundant grace upon us as we serve Him who loves us so much. I thank Share International and those in the U.S. I pray that the Lord will bless the churches in the U.S. that contribute toward the work of the Gospel here in Turkana land. I thank you for the bicycle. It will facilitate the spread of the Gospel in the villages where I visit each day. I can now share the Word in three villages in one day!"

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the **Father** and of the **Son** and of the **Holy Spirit**

Matthew 28:19

Despite the daily physical and environmental hardships that the SI-supported missionary-pastors have experienced the past 8 months, they have led Gospel and church-planting expeditions in several villages, including Lochorekuyen and Nayanaekatwan where 56 adults put their faith in Christ as Savior and two churches planted!

Pronounced spiritual growth and maturity continues to be evidenced among the churches. The SI Adult Literacy (SIAL - see under "COK" below) program in these churches is now beginning to bear fruit, especially through the Discipleship Program. Those that have benefited from SIAL classes the past several years are now taking leadership roles in discipleship groups during the week. They are *reading* and *teaching* the Bible in their own language, in their own villages! That is solid church growth! That's the primary purpose for SI's existence!

Others in some of the churches have been appointed to church-planting teams to help pastors with surveying and identifying the unreached villages 20-30km from the mother churches. Yet others are engaging in survival skills by learning how to do small businesses such as selling groceries and charcoal in the villages. This too is a critical phase in the growth of the indigenous Church in Turkana land.

Out of the 76 SIMI graduates of 2006, 62 are still waiting (four have passed on to be with the Lord) for sponsors so they can be commissioned as missionary-pastors to unreached territories further afield in Turkana land. SI requests donors

to consider providing for them at **\$180/mo.** Please indicate your support by checking the “**SICGP**” box in the enclosed response card, or visit the “**SICGP**” page at www.shareinternationalinc.com to make your donation online.

SI Women & Children Program (SIWCP)

(By Agnes Nakara, SIWCP Coordinator, Turkana Land)

As SIWCP’s impact among the Turkana women and children in the remote villages continues to bear lasting fruit, the need to challenge and train the pastors’ wives toward more proactive involvement in ministry has become critical. In obedience to God’s Word by way of Apostle Paul’s edification to the saints in Rome (Romans 15:1-3; 16:1,2) and to Timothy, his “true son in the faith” (1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 2:2), **Agnes Lodepe Nakara** and the SI staff in Lodwar invited 12 of the pastors’ wives for an intensive “Train-the-Trainer” one-day seminar on Discipleship in January.

Following the seminar, the wives were challenged and commissioned to model the principles of discipleship among the women and children in their respective churches, and not to leave all ministries to their pastor husbands. They were reminded that they were co-workers and partners with their husbands in the ministry; that the success of their ministry depended on the entire family unit, of which they are an integral part.

Another training seminar on Evangelism was held in February, with an attendance of 36 women! **Agnes Lemuya** (wife of COK’s Coordinator in Turkana Land) challenged the women from Judges 16:4-8 about the consequences of a “Foolish Woman”. She taught that,

“A foolish woman reveals the secrets of her husband to other people. She loves other people to the extent of exposing her husband’s weaknesses. She does not uphold the importance of communication in marriage. She basis her love for her husband on money.”

The SIWCP team (comprising mainly of the SI staff’s wives) has also been actively engaged in frequent teaching sessions in the remote village churches. In February, **Sarah Esekon** (SICGP Coordinator’s wife), taught 20 women at the church in Chokchok village on the subject “The Strengths

of A Woman” from Acts 16:11-15 and Proverbs 14:1,2. She challenged them to be hospitable and industrious. In turn, the women requested SI to provide them with a variety of seeds so they can grow crops along River Turkwel when the river is flowing, or drill a borehole to provide water for irrigation during the dry season. They also requested for regular means of transportation for charcoal and basket products to sell in Lodwar to save them from constant and severe backaches and neck problems caused by carrying heavy loads. It takes the women 1 1/2 days to carry products on their backs and heads from Chokchok to Lodwar. This alone keeps many of them from attending church on Sundays and mid-week fellowships.



Agnes Nakara, Agnes Lemuya, & Sarah Esekon teaching Turkana women

In March, the team had a similar meeting in Nayuu village with an attendance of 110 women! Agnes Nakara taught about “A Woman of Faith” from Matthew 15:28.

Open discussions on sensitive but crucial subjects, such as the role of the husband to provide for his family, laziness, sex, planning a family, and consequences of marrying under-age girls, follow the sessions each time. There was a resounding call from the women in Nayuu village for **Dr. Mary Murimi** to go back there and teach the young girls about the consequences of marrying old men! They said,

“Since Mary taught our girls in 2003 and 2008, many of them are not marrying old men! They are marrying young men!”

The SIWCP team in Lodwar taught and ministered to the needs of **1,069** Turkana women altogether between August 2008 and April 2009. SI requests donors to consider providing for SIWCP at **\$300/mo.** Please indicate your support by checking the “**SIWCP**” box in the enclosed response card, or visit the “**Women & Children**” page at **www.shareinternationalinc.com** and make your donation online.

SI Children of the Kingdom (SI-COK)

(By Emily Huff & Joshua Lemuya, SI-COK Coordinators)



“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!”

- 1 John 3:1.

This is a verse that inspired the name for our program - “Children of the Kingdom” (COK). The program started with 10 Turkana children in 1997. By December 2008, a total of **57** students had graduated from high school, **9** from colleges, and **3** from universities in Kenya. We want to thank each of you who have been sponsors of the Turkana children over the years. With the current **172** children in our COK program and **47** children in our SIFA program, we are grateful for the difference you are making in each of these children’s lives. Change in Turkana will happen one-child-at-a-time as God’s people like you reach out to these children in Kenya.

“RAFIKI RUN” in Nashville: One fundraising effort that we had this past Spring was a run called the “RAFIKI RUN.” “Rafiki” is Swahili for “friend”. It was an effort to offer runners an opportunity to take on the challenge of a big race

to make a difference in the lives of our friends in Turkana. This year, as part of doing the kids’ marathon, my 6-year old daughter, **Anna Huff**, signed up to be a part of the “RAFIKI RUN” to raise funds toward SI-COK programs in Turkana. Runners ask for pledges per mile of the race.

Anna participated in the Kids’ Country Music Marathon this year as well. She began by running a few laps at home and stayed after school with the team from her school to run a mile each day. The YMCA Country Music Kids’ Marathon is an opportunity for young runners in grades K-6 to participate in a marathon - modified just for kids. Participants complete 25.2 miles on their own or with a group prior to race day. On April 24th, all participants completed their last mile together at LP Field in Nashville, Tennessee, and crossed the same finish line that athletes used the following day in the full marathon.

By April 29th, Anna and her friends had raised **\$4,817.30** for this effort! It is amazing what a 6-year olds can do! Anna ran the race in honor of her friend **Mercy Nakutan Lojok** (daughter of Joshua Lemuya).



Anna Huff, Katelyn White, Baker Thomas, Lily Thomas, & Witt Thomas raised close to \$5,000 for COK through Rafiki Run in April!

“SMART” in Turkana: To produce responsible and “smart” children, COK in Turkana has adapted a “smart” goal for educating and training them. The goal is to be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound – “SMART” – if success is to be achieved! It’s only by being “SMART” that good stewardship of all the natural and financial resources that God continues to bestow upon the COK ministry will be realized. “SMART” also requires seeking healthy collaboration with other credible

organizations and the government departments where necessary in order to maximize achievement at reasonable costs. COK has collaborated with Oxfam's Turkana Education For All (TEFA), Christian Children's Fund (CCF), Red Cross, Education Department, Rapid School Readiness Initiative, and SERV International.

The COK ministry continues to cultivate a sense of human value and hope in Christ in the lives of many poor and less privileged children in Turkana land by meeting their cognitive and spiritual needs. The staff is committed to achieve the SMART goal by *sharing the Word of God and their very lives* (1Thess.2:8) and making sure that each child in the program stays in school through prompt payment of tuition and provision of books, uniforms, and health care.

SIAL: The SI Adult Literacy program has become a tremendous source of development in nine of the villages where SI has plated churches. The nine salaried teachers and the COK staff teach, monitor, and supervise the classes constantly. Despite the challenges caused by drought and famine, the students have an incredible motivation to learn and read the Word of God. These classes have brought light to these villages. Many villagers now know how to read and write. They comprehend the Bible for themselves!



Dickson Maisa, COK Assistant, distributes books to students in a SIAL "classroom" in Chokchok village

SIFA: The SI Foster-Adoption program was started three years ago to address the plight of the many orphans and street children in Lodwar Township. SI challenged her own Turkana staff and SI-supported pastors to consider taking in some of the children

under their roof with the hope that God would provide the funds to subsidize the expenses for their upkeep and education. The challenge was well received. Today, SIFA program is caring for **47** children in **15** established homes! COK raises funds for the program from willing sponsors at **\$15/mo/child**. The program faces a steep challenge as more children flock into the streets of Lodwar from the hinterland because of lack of food caused by drought and subsequent famine.



Dalmas & Sarah Esekon with their biological and SIFA children

One of the SIFA parents – **Mama Amana** - reports,

"Baby Ruth Ewet is my granddaughter. It was the death of my son's wife that moved me to bring her into my home. It was a challenging responsibility for me as a grandmother. Traditionally, I was expected to breast-feed the baby. But my breasts had no milk! It's been a long time since I breast-fed! I had even forgotten how to do it!

The doctors advised me that Ruth should be fed with formula, which cost \$10 for a 2kg tin. My son had nothing to provide for the baby, or even buy the milk because he was jobless. I thank God for Share International. God sent his angels to my help through the SIFA program. I am now able to buy formula for Ruth every month. I thank God for Children of the Kingdom, especially the SIFA program."

SISL: COK plans to make the SI Small Loans

available to graduating high school and college students to encourage entrepreneurship as funds are donated to the program. Among the natural resources that the recipients will be challenged to tap into for potential businesses include bee keeping, collection and sale of Turkana artifacts, and livestock marketing.

COK & Jacaranda Creations Partnership:

Rather than sending over boxes of supplies and gifts from sponsors to Turkanaland with the U.S. STORM team each summer, COK will be partnering with Jacaranda Creations (JC) in Nairobi to give gifts to the children at the annual banquet in Lodwar.

JC is a sewing ministry begun by **Garry & Brenda Kean** in Nairobi to help underprivileged women and children in Kenya. Through this ministry, COK has ordered 250 backpacks - one for each child in the K-12 and SIFA programs. The backpacks will be supplied with several exercise books, pencils, erasers, a ruler, crayons...everything these children will need to go back to school in the Fall supplied and ready to learn!

The women that make the bags are single moms who are able to support their families through the sewing of these bags. COK has also raised funds to purchase a few sewing machines for women in Lodwar so that we can begin our own branch of JC there. This partnership will allow for the creation of skills and jobs for the Turkana people, especially the COK female graduates and other women in Turkanaland. Many thanks to those who have helped get this project off the ground. It has been a blessing to all involved!

Jobs: The fruit of the mutual commitment by sponsors and staff to the COK program over the years is beginning to be evidenced. Among the COK Turkana students that have graduated from high school and college, several have secured permanent jobs. One is now a Kenya police officer, another is a teacher in the Early Childhood Development program, and another is in the accounting department with World Vision; another is with the Equity Bank and one other with Kenya Agency for the Development of Enterprise & Technology (KADET) loan scheme. Many others in other various jobs! They are all walking with the Lord and supporting their families and churches.

Mother Teresa said, “We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.” Though you may not see the change that you are making, you are. Your gifts are changing children’s lives in northwestern Kenya. To God be the glory for your commitment to these children.

SI requests donors to consider providing for the COK program at **\$30/mo. for K-12 students, \$15/mo. for SIFA students, and \$60/mo. for college students**. The general fund is also an important place to give as that helps cover salaries, the Emergency Deacon’s Fund in Lodwar, transportation, and office supplies. Please indicate your support by checking the “**COK**” box in the enclosed response card, or visit the “**Children of the Kingdom**” page at **www.shareinternationalinc.com** to make your donation online. Thank you so much for your support!

SI Health Program (SIHP)

(By Derrick E. Lowoto, SIHP Chief Clinical Officer & Anna Karimjong, Nurse)

The SIHP staff of one clinical officer and one nurse continues to provide quality health care to hundreds of Turkana people at the Health Center in Lodwar and in remote villages by way of the mobile clinic. Among the critical services provided by the program include health/hygiene education on transmission and prevention of HIV/AIDS and control of malaria, referral to more advanced health units outside Turkanaland, visiting the terminally ill, advising pregnant and lactating mothers through regular pre- and post-natal clinics, child health, and sibling spacing based on society norms and values that are in line with God’s Word.

In January, the SIHP staff collaborated with the Kenya Government health workers in vigilant surveillance of childhood killer diseases and a polio eradication campaign in several remote villages. A total of **1,826** children below the age of 5 were immunized.

Between January and March, the SIHP staff treated a total of **666** patients of more than **17** diseases, with a total of **482** (72%) reporting complete healing. Serious cases were referred to the only government hospital in the entire Turkana District. There were three fatalities.



Derrick Lowoto (left) treats a patient in a remote village

During one of the recent mobile clinics in Chokchok village, a patient who was involved in witchcraft surrendered his life to Christ after successful treatment of a longstanding illness. The staff shared God's message in Isaiah 43:1-3, 18-19 with him. He repented of his sinful deeds and surrendered his life to Christ. He was encouraged to start attending Chokchok Community Church for further teaching and baptism.

The medical services are making significant spiritual impact in the lives of many patients. People are changing from bad ways and choosing good ways of life. They are beginning to understand the need and importance of accepting Christ for eternal salvation.

Perpetual shortage of drugs due to lack of funds is a major drawback in SIHP's services in Turkana land. Negotiations between SI and a pharmaceutical organization in Nairobi are underway to pave ways for regular and consistent supply of medicines to the SI Health Center at reduced costs.

SI requests donors to consider providing for this program at **\$1,450/mo.** Please indicate your support by checking the "SIHP" box in the enclosed response card, or visit the "SIHP" page at **www.shareinternationalinc.com** to make your donation online.

SI Livestock Program (SILP)

(By Dalmas Esekou, SILP Coordinator, Turkana land)

After suffering a major and devastating annihilation of livestock in Turkana land in 2008 due to the contagious *Pestes des Petit Ruminants* (PPR) disease, the purchase and distribution of goats

was put on hold until vaccination was complete. SILP lost at least 20 goats from the disease and vaccinated close to 38,000 animals in 13 villages during STORM-2008. One of the beneficiaries of the vaccination exercise expressed her heartfelt gratitude:

"The vaccinations truly saved many of our animals from dying. I am glad it happened just at the right time!"



Turkana family holds baby goats that lost their mothers to PPR disease

The distribution of the goats to poor families restarted in the last quarter of 2008. With the donations received for SILP before November that year, SI purchased and distributed 68 goats to 17 poor families at 4 goats per family. With donations received between December 2008 and April 2009, SI distributed 100 goats to 25 families. The goats provide milk and blood (staple diet for the Turkana people!) to the beneficiaries daily.

The SILP staff explains to the recipients the long-term plan before the goats are donated; that SI would monitor the goats' health and numerical growth, with the requirement that the recipients would donate three female goats to SI as soon as the female goats multiply to ten. SI would then purchase a male goat and donate the four goats to another poor family.

The Turkana livelihood relies entirely on livestock for survival. The SILP ministry has proved to be very fruitful to the economic lifeline of the Turkana people. A couple of years ago, many of the poor Turkana families had no hope for the future until SI integrated the livestock ministry in her programs. Now residents in remote villages where

SI has planted churches have embraced the idea of restocking. This is a viable project that will be used of God to benefit many lives, both economically and spiritually. We share the Gospel and pray with each recipient family, pleading for God's protection and favor over the animals and for provision of rain. Many souls will turn to the Lord through the program, resulting in even greater church growth within and beyond all the SI-planted churches. The recipients wish to express "a million thanks" to the generous donors for this growing and beneficial program.

SI requests donors to consider providing for this program at **\$90/4 goats**. Please indicate your support by checking the "SILP" box in the enclosed response card, or visit the "SILP" page at www.shareinternationalinc.com to make your donation online.

SI Messiah Gospel Ministry (SIMGM) - India
(By Ratnakar Thota, SIMGM Coordinator, India)



Sewing Program: A total of 15 sewing machines purchased through a generous donation by an American couple early last year and used to train another 15 Dalit women of the 2008-2009 class were donated to the women at the graduation

ceremony in Rajamundry on March 23rd. That adds to the previous 20 graduates of 2007 and 2008 who have started successful small sewing businesses in their respective villages!



Graduating class of 2008-2009 receives sewing machines from Pastor & Mrs. Joseph Thota

The good thing about the 2008-2009 class is that some of the students got opportunities to earn money right away through job contracts from local cloth merchants. Two of them from Gadala Village opened businesses in their homes. They are receiving huge job contracts and responses from different villages; they even bought zigzag and over-lock sewing machines to enhance better finishing for their products! They are staying very busy. Another 2009 graduate - a former inmate and widow named Devi - was offered job contracts right away. Devi had lost her husband in a communal dispute. When her immediate family received Jesus Christ as Savior, her extended family deserted her. The church took the responsibility of her husband's funeral and provided her family with shelter and support. One other graduate from Kanavaram Village opened a sewing and groceries shop in the heart of the village. These beneficiaries are proving to be a financial blessing to their pastors as well!

One sad note is that, Mary Lakshmi, one of our sewing program beneficiaries of the 2007-2008 class, was killed by her alcoholic husband in January. Mary was a very strong believer at Pastor Shekar's church. Her sewing business was doing very well; she even contributed to the pastor's support. She had been widowed before she remarried a year prior to her death. Mary had no children.



Mary Lakshmi

The new 2009-2010 class of 15 women started lessons on April 11th with new sewing machines purchased by the same American couple! The SI-supported pastors serving in remote villages selected the students from their respective churches.

These are women who have been involved in evangelistic programs in their villages but also suffer abject poverty and physical abuse.



New 2009-2010 Sewing Class

Our sewing center in Rajahmundry is somewhat like a rehabilitation facility for the poor and downtrodden Dalit women who have physically and mentally lost hope of a better life. We talk with them and give them comfort and mental strength through our Bible teachings. We are receiving tremendous response through our ministry to these poor women.

Evangelism & Teaching: Our pastors have constantly continued to spread the Word of God in unreached villages. We are hoping to come up with a more defined method of evangelism and church planting. The regular teaching conferences for pastors led by Pastor Joseph Thota have been very helpful to the lay pastors and the youth. We have had long-standing invitations from unreached villages in the hinterland. But transportation had hindered our outreach efforts.

In April, the Lord provided \$11,000 to purchase a new car for the SIMGM work through the generosity of SI supporters in the U.S. To God be all the glory! All praise to the Almighty! We thank each one of you from the bottom of our hearts. The car will be a precious tool in the ministry, especially in our outreach efforts with the pastors and the satellite Bible teaching and training seminars by Pastor Thota. Pastor Thota has been relatively immobile since he suffered permanent paralysis on one side of his body following a motorcycle accident several years ago. The new car will now get him to the seminars without a problem.

The needs for SIMGM include funds to purchase land for the ministry at **\$50,000** and **\$1,450/mo** support for pastors, education for Dalit children, and women suffering domestic abuse. SI requests donors to consider providing for these needs by checking the “SIMGM” box in the enclosed response card, or by visiting the “**India Outreach**” page at www.shareinternationalinc.com to make donations online

Joshua Lemuya Visits the U.S.

The Huffs, the Kirchners, and the Murimis had the joy and privilege of hosting Joshua Lemuya in their homes in Tennessee, Illinois, and Louisiana respectively following his visit with an American pastor friend of his in California in August-September 2008. Joshua shared about the SI ministry in various churches and groups in the four states. SI wishes to thank each family, church, and group that invited Joshua. It was very refreshing to see and hear from a beloved Turkana brother in a “foreign” land!



*Joshua Lemuya speaks to **STORM** alumni in Ruston, Louisiana*

2008 Fundraiser Concert: “Reach One, Touch One”

A total of **\$10,000** was raised at the fundraiser concert and silent auction on November 7, 2008 at Christ Community Church, Ruston, Louisiana. The concert featured the worship teams from New Living Word Ministries and Christ Community Church of Ruston. SI is very grateful to the two teams and all who volunteered and/or came to support the SI ministry through this annual event.

Notes from SI Board Members



Every Tribe, Every Language...

“And they sang a new song: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because You were slain, and with Your blood You purchased men for God from

every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign upon the earth.’” - Revelation 5:9-10

Have you ever considered what gives money its value? It is not its intrinsic value - paper money has less than a few cents of paper and ink; even coins do not have their face value in metal. What gives money value is the government’s declaration of value, peoples’ trust in that value, and ultimately what it will buy or what someone will give for it.

What is the value of a Turkana or a Dalit? According to their countrymen, not much. In fact, not that many years ago, one of the worst insults and slurs in Kenya was to call a person a “Turkana”. Yet according to God, they are of infinite worth. He placed the *Imageo Deo*, the image of God in each person, no matter what color, race, or economic status. “Let us make man in Our image, in Our likeness...” (Genesis 1:26-27).

Beyond that amazing value, what will someone pay for a Turkana or Dalit ... or for you? Jesus said He would pay everything! He would pay His blood, His life to buy back for God the Father His precious creation. “*For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.... And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.*” (2 Corinthians 5:14,19b-20; emphasis added).

Because Christ paid everything, what will we invest to reach the Turkanas and Dalits? I invite you to join me as Christ’s ambassadors in investing your prayers, your time, and your finances so that every nation may believe and obey Him (Romans 16:25).

I was part of the original Share International Pioneer Team that went to Kenya in 1992 and 1994 to help set up the Kenya Board of Directors and to recruit nationals as missionaries at the African equivalent of the Urbana Missions Conference. I was recently reading the 1994 *Unevangelised Peoples of Kenya* book by SIL (Wycliffe Bible Translators) that we had on display at the conference. Here is how they described the Turkana people:

Q: Are they receptive to change and to Christianity?

A: The Turkana are receptive to change if they feel it is to their advantage. However, ***religion is not seen as a vital part of their life so they are indifferent to Christianity.***

Q: Is outside (cross-cultural) assistance required from missionaries?

A: No, they are not required since the Turkana Church is already established. But missionaries can still make a beneficial contribution. The Turkana are nomadic people and ***any effort to assist these people will be difficult.*** The Turkana church must continue to deal with Turkana traditions. Some of these traditions are wholesome and should be incorporated into the Christian community. Others are contrary to Christian principles and must be transformed before they can be incorporated. Others must be rejected by the Christian community. ***A truly effective strategy that speaks to the Turkana has yet to be discovered.*** - SIL, 1994, p. 68 (emphasis added).

Praise God for the vision, wisdom and holistic strategies that He has given **Sammy & Mary Murimi** and the SI team in effectively reaching the Turkana, in training the Turkana pastors and missionaries, and planting multiplying churches that continue to reach further into the hinterland and even to other people groups. They have become a kingdom and priests to serve our God and be His ambassadors. Bwana Asifiwe! (Swahili for “Praise the Lord”).

Pastor Bruce Dow
SI Pioneer Team & Vice Chairman,
U.S. Board of Directors

Share International Stands Out



Since I was appointed to serve on the SI Kenya Board just over a year ago, I have been deeply touched by its operations both locally and internationally. SI stands out in my mind as a well-managed organization with objectives of serving the Turkana community in holistic

terms. The approach is unique and effective for any community. It is not discriminative.

A visit on the ground reveals the impact of SI among the Turkana people, whose expression of gratitude to SI and God is outwardly evident. They are so grateful to God for a group of people devoted to uplifting their standard of living while introducing the saving grace of Jesus Christ at the same time. Anyone visiting Turkana land can experience and appreciate the work being done in many fields, including medical, food and water relief, education, livestock, women and children ministries, and church planting. Many detailed reports are readily available to support my testimony.

As a veterinary doctor, I was involved in the introduction of SI Livestock Program (SILP) in Turkana land two years ago. The annual SILP Vet camps have added immensely towards the well being of the livestock, which serves as a source livelihood for all the Turkana people in the arid and semi-arid northwestern region of Kenya where rainfall is scarce. One would speak volumes on the impact of the SILP's restocking plan for the very poor families who receive daily sustenance through the donation of goats, some of which replace the dead due to famine or disease.

All of us on the Kenya side are waiting with great expectation the miracles that our God will perform among the Turkana people during STORM this June. Kenya has experienced drought this year, which has resulted in severe food shortage. Many people are faced with famine and hunger. I know that STORM-2009 will provide food to the Turkana people and help save them from death. I look forwards to this year's STORM and pray that God will sustain and protect the combined US-African team under the blood of Jesus Christ. I pray that

many Turkana people will surrender their lives to Christ during STORM. I especially look forward to witness baptisms of many new believers in Lake Turkana; a sign that the Church of Jesus Christ is growing.

I have witnessed outstanding leadership in the SI Director. He works so hard to coordinate and monitor all activities even from the U.S. where he lives. I see volumes of e-mail correspondence between U.S. and Kenya on daily basis detailing the goings-on on the ground. I must say that I have not seen this in any other organization with which I have associated. It shows the commitment of the Director to the activities of SI. Truly, his heart is sold out to the Turkana people. I pray that God will sustain his life in good health to continue to serve.

SI operates in a very transparent manner, laying bare all its records and activities for anyone to peruse. The ministry performs its functions in consultation with all the stakeholders. The Board approves all the budgets and expenses for the ministry. All the expenses are accounted for fully. No one can doubt the level of accountability. I would like to assure all who make their financial contributions to SI that their dollars are put to good use. I request you to continue to support this ministry.

I am privileged to serve on the Kenya Board together with other members - **Bishop Samwel Kaaleng, Peter Musee, and Lois Mwangi**. These members are committed to serving the Lord through SI. As Board members, we strive to assist the indigenous missionaries and SI staff in Turkana land. I will strive to contribute positively in the leadership of SI in Kenya. May the Lord God bless you all.

Dr. Josiah M. Mandieka, SI-Kenya Board Member

The Fiscal Challenge

(By Lisa Cole, SI Financial Assistant)



In the short time I've been associated with SI, I have been amazed time and again at the generosity and faithfulness of God's people throughout the world. Recently, SI sent an appeal for donations to help the people of Turkana land

who were suffering in the midst of a horrendous famine. In a few short weeks, SI received enough donations to send approximately \$13,300 to Kenya to purchase food supplies for those battling starvation and disease.

However, I have also realized that there is always an unmet financial need for the ministries of SI. In addition to special projects such as the recent humanitarian relief to the Turkana people, SI must also meet our monthly budget of over \$10,000 for our ongoing financial commitments to the ministries in Turkanaland and India. Despite the frugality of the staff and our low administrative costs, it is often a struggle to meet these monthly obligations. In the last year there have been times when salaries or other bills have been delayed until sufficient funds are available. Despite the delay, through God's faithfulness and your continued generosity, the needs of our ministries have been met.

Your prayers, financial gifts, and volunteer work are essential to the success of SI ministries. During this time of economic hardship for many of us in the United States, please remember that your gifts, large or small, and your prayers are a blessing to people across the world that have experienced more adversity than most of us can imagine.

SI has already been a blessing for me and I have certainly felt the love and prayers of people throughout the world as I have familiarized myself with the financial operations of this ministry. I look forward to serving with each of you.

SI is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA).

A Note from SI Director

From my heart to your heart:



Kingdom-Seeking National Missionaries

Historically, Christian nationals in Sub-Saharan Africa have been on the receiving end in regard to Missions. They have been the recipients of a great

number of missionaries and resources from the West for more than a century. But only a very small percentage of nationals in the blooming Church in that vast part of Africa have entered the "Mission Field" all these years. One major cause of the dismal number may be attributed to the perception that nationals still have of a "missionary" – someone from the West, usually a Caucasian, speaks a foreign language, lives in a "nice" house, drives a 4X4 imported vehicle, goes on vacation along the coast at least three times a year, flies to his/her homeland to do "deputation" every other year... and on-and-on!

While that may be true to some degree, very few nationals ever take the time to appreciate the sacrifice and the hard work that most of these "foreign" missionaries have made and done to birth and grow the phenomenal Church of Jesus Christ in Sub-Saharan Africa. It took me many years to understand, realize, and appreciate the sacrifices made by many "foreign missionaries" of the 19th and 20th centuries. As a few indigenous churches begin to engage in serious Missions - and not being an alarmist myself - I fear the possibility that the "sacrifice package" that has historically and inevitably accompanied evangelical Christian Missions may be repackaged and become a "fashionable enterprise" that demands the very "attractive missionary amenities" that many of us may have condemned and associated with "Foreign Missions" in the past. My fear and concern today is the "neo-missionary" attitude that can easily brew among missionary nationals based fundamentally on a false and un-Biblical perception of a "missionary".

The perception of a "foreign missionary" described above can so easily lead nationals to believe that to be an effective "missionary" means having "all these things" (Matthew 6:33b) at the expense of seeking, establishing, and upholding first (through preaching and teaching the Crucified and Risen Christ) the Biblical fundamentals of our faith - God's *Kingdom* and His *Righteousness* (Matthew 6:33a) in the hearts of men and women. As the Lord allows SI the privilege of sending and supporting more and more Turkana and Dalit missionaries and pastors among the unreached people-groups in remote villages, it is absolutely necessary to make

sure that the Biblical fundamentals that define a missionary-pastor and his vocation are upheld at all cost. To do so, SI will continue to send only those missionary-pastor nationals that the ministry has trained; those who first prove their commitment to Christ-like missionary vocation by demonstrating a *Kingdom* and *Righteousness* mindset, values, and service among the poor in the villages before they are commissioned.

I am glad to report that the current ten SI-supported Turkana missionary-nationals in the SI Church Growth Program (see “SICGP” above) had all demonstrated (and continue to demonstrate) the sacrifice “requirement” before they were recommended for monthly financial support and subsequent commissioning. They are effectively serving the Lord, not because of “all these things” that the Lord is giving them in order to be more effective, but because their hearts are committed to *Kingdom* and *Righteousness* values first. They are emulating the image of Christ in a context where Christ has not been preached; among those “...who (are) far away” (Ephesians 2:17); “...among the nations” (1 Timothy 3:16); “...where Christ (is) not known. They are not building on someone else’s foundation (Romans 15:20). They are witnessing the fruitful “work produced by faith”, “labor prompted by love”, and “endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 1:3). Those are the *Kingdom* and *Righteousness* values that must govern the new wave of Missions in Sub-Saharan Africa and other parts of the world.

SI has 62 trained and proven Turkana and 16 Dalit missionary-pastors still “waiting in the wings” for support in order to be sent. God desires to use these dedicated servants to reach and bring many souls in Turkana and India to the saving faith found only in His Crucified and Risen Son. Will you make it happen? Will you help us make it happen? It takes **\$180/mo.** to support a missionary-pastor national and his family. I invite you to be involved with us in realizing the *Kingdom* and *Righteousness* of God among the nations “while it’s called Today” (Hebrews 3:13).

Please indicate your support for this important effort by checking the “SICGP” box in the enclosed response card, or by visiting the “SICGP” page at www.shareinternationalinc.com to make your donation online.

update



SI received a donation of 107 bags of corn and 20 of beans for the Turkana people from the Anglican Church of Kenya (ACK) congregation at the All Saints Cathedral in Nairobi in March. Pictured above is Rev. David Sawe (right) of All Saints Cathedral presenting the foodstuffs to Dalmas Esekon, the SICGP Coordinator in Turkana, in Lodwar. SI is grateful to the saints at All Saints Cathedral.



New car for SIMGM: This car will be used for outreach by the SIMGM leadership and pastors in India. It will facilitate Pastor Joseph Thota’s mobility to the satellite Bible teaching and training seminars. Pastor Thota suffered a stroke following a motorcycle accident several years ago.



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