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*"Sudan will stretch out her hands
onto God." Psalm 68:31*



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04 January 2011



Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

I hope you all had a blessed Christmas time and a good start into the New Year. I left Sudan mid-December and spent some time over Christmas at the Kenyan coast. I have to admit that Christmas doesn't quite feel like Christmas in 35C. I spent New Year at a Christian conference centre near Nairobi attending a conference organized by Mission Aviation Fellowship. We had a lovely time of getting pampered alongside solid Christian teaching.

Sudan Update

Things were calm and quiet when I left Sudan. The whole Sudan team has now left Sudan and we will be waiting, hoping and praying for the Referendum on the 9th of January. It would be greatly appreciated if you could join us in prayer on the 9th.

Future Plans

Back in April, AIM asked all the South Sudan unit members to think about other options in case AIM does not come back to Sudan with the referendum approaching in January. After thinking and praying about it, I applied for PhD studies as a back-up plan in case war breaks out in Sudan.

As time went on and I looked at different universities, I realised that my desire to start a PhD next year was much stronger than I had originally thought. What started as a 'back-up plan' became a real item for prayer and I sought God about it for a long time. The prayer issue was not so much about starting a PhD as it was about leaving Sudan. However, the more I prayed about it, the more peace I received - it felt like something fell into place inside me. The conclusion to all this is that I will come home permanently in February to start a PhD in September. I have applied to four universities, two in England and two in the States, of which one has already made me an unconditional offer. I am hoping for a scholarship and would be grateful for your prayers in that area. Two part-timers will take over my role at the college in Sudan in 2011 and AIM has agreed to post a vacancy for a long-termer starting 2012, which allows me to go feeling that I'm not leaving a huge gap here.

I will be coming home on the 28th of January and will be in the UK until the 7th of March after which I will be leaving for Germany to see my supporters there and spend time with my family. My mobile phone number in the UK will be 07966461445 and it would be great to hear from you and have a chat - I'll be staying in Nantwich for the duration of my time in England. I have greatly appreciated your financial and prayer support over the last few years in Africa - without your help, I would have not been able to serve here!

GTC's principal, Philip Eisa, his wife and I



Home Assignment

Prayer Requests:

- ✚ That the 9th of January will be peaceful and voting a success
- ✚ For continued peace in Sudan
- ✚ That the last few weeks in Africa will be good
- ✚ A safe journey home (I'm bringing 100kgs back, so am a bit worried about the luggage)
- ✚ That I will receive a scholarship for the phd studies
- ✚ That I will find a job in Germany from April to August

Answers to Prayer:

- ✚ That the registration for the Referendum went well
- ✚ That peace has lasted this long in Sudan
- ✚ That extra money was given to cover the deficit

All gifts should be marked **'Verena/Sudan'** and sent to Elim International Missions, Elim International Centre, De Walden Road, West Malvern, WR14 4DF, England (cheques payable to Elim International Missions). Charity no 251549 (England); SC037754 (Scotland)