

Newsletter no 9 July 2011

Khaki Support Fund supports orphans in Khartoum and Kinshasa by paying school fees. Khaki was established as a Dutch Foundation, end 2006, by Claude Mushikangondo and Corina van der Laan

Khaki Support Fund

The Khaki Fund starts another school year soon, with the existing group of children and some new challenges. There are major changes in Khartoum. The larger part of the Southern Sudanese community has left Khartoum and went back to their own country. South Sudan became independent on July 9 and is now separated from (Northern) Sudan. Below we will explain what the consequences are for the children. In Kinshasa the children continue to perform well in school. This time we will look at the situation of two Congolese girls who had been left without proper care. The challenge for this year is to raise enough funds, and to finalise the website, which is currently under construction.

Children in Kinshasa

The children in Kinshasa have good school results year after year. They are really motivated and grateful that they get a chance to good education despite their poverty. Diazelele (20) en Matondo (11) are sisters and two of the children who receive help from the Khaki Fund. Their father developed a mental illness eight years ago, after which Cécile, the mother, decided to divorce him and to remarry. In such cases it is common that the new husband refuses to look after the step children, because he has his own children who are his priority. Cecile's four children in a way lost their father and their mother as well during the divorce, and they stayed behind with different family members who were not able to give them everything they needed, like education.

The eldest, Diazelele (photo on the right) has a chronic disease and often falls ill. That is why she was deprived of a lot of things during her childhood. She is now in secondary school and also learns how to sew. Her youngest sister Matondo (photo far right), had to miss her parents from early age; she is now in a good primary school and would otherwise not have learned how to read and write. She is one of the best pupils of her class!



Children in Khartoum

Many Southern Sudanese families from Khartoum (North Sudan) have gone back to their country the last couple of months. They prefer to live in their own village or town in the South, or they are afraid that they will be oppressed and discriminated in the North. The Northern government finds it hard to accept that South Sudan is now independent and they threaten with measures against those Southerners who want to stay in the North. The tensions have gone up in the border areas, and some parts are even being bombed by the government.

At this moment the Khaki volunteer makes an inventory of the Southern children who are left in Khartoum with their families and who still need help for the new school year. The Khaki Fund will not continue the support to the children who are returning to Southern Sudan. It is impossible to follow them all to the far away corners of their country. Moreover, primary education is free in Southern Sudan and there are many aid organisations assisting the government to improve the education system. The Khaki Fund would like to help the children in the marginalised areas near the border, to start with Tima district in the Nuba mountains where good contacts have been established with the local teachers. Due to the long civil war in the '90s the poverty is high and many families do not have a bread winner. The recent outburst of violence against the population is another setback.



These pictures show children in a village in Tima district. At the moment there is no school building. The children are taught under a tree, seated on stones and small rocks. To start with the Khaki Fund plans to send teaching materials, and to find other aid organisations which can fund the construction of a basic school building.

Update on Khaki Fund Website

The Khaki Fund website is online, but needs to be finalised, with information on the children and on fund raising. Would you like to have a look and tell us what you think? www.khakifund.org It is still all in Dutch, except for the newsletters. The plan is to make an English section for the non-Dutch sympathizers.

Fund raising for Khaki

It is great to see that Khaki-sympathizers take the initiative to raise money. The youngest is Rosa of 6 years old. She made a Khaki 'lucky dip' and charged 20 cent to other children who came for a scramble. She raised about € 25 on the Queen's birthday celebrations.





Another fun event was the wedding service of Cor and Laura (who is from Rwanda) during which a special offering was taken for the Khaki Fund. Claude's choir had learned a Rwandan song especially for this occasion.

Khaki financial update

Progress 2011

According to the original plan the number of children supported by the Khaki Fund would be raised from 125 to 150. However this will not be possible because the revenues have not increased yet. End of July the Khaki Fund raised about € 5700, while this was more than € 7000 the same time last year. The Khaki Fund Board, which will be enforced with two new members, will have to be more enterprising in raising funds. The strength of this initiative lies in its small scale nature, its effectiveness in reaching needy children and its 'value for money' because of very low admin costs. The more people know about this initiative, the easier it will be to raise sufficient funds.

The annual cost for a school child in Kinshasa is about € 145 and € 100 in Khartoum.

Will you help to support one or two children?

For more information on the Khaki Support Fund and the children we support
Write to the chair person corinavanderlaan@hotmail.com or to stichtingkhaki@live.nl

Khaki Support Fund is registered with the Dutch Tax authorities as charity organisation, and as a Foundation at the Chambers of Commerce in The Hague, reg nr 27293920. For donations, the bank account is 2707444, 'Stichting Khaki Support Fund' in Kamerik.

For non-Dutch donors: International Bank account nr (IBAN) is NL13 INGB 0002707444.
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