



MERCY IN ACTION INTERNATIONAL

**FEBRUARY & MARCH 2008
MISSION TRIP TO KENYA**

Dear Partners in Christ:

Ruby and I re-booked and flew out to Kenya earlier on February 17, 2008. As you know, Kenya has been going through demonic tribalism ever since the last presidential election on December 27, 2007. The candidate who claimed victory is Kikuyu and the one who lost is Luyah. The vote was almost 50-50. The Luyah called mass demonstrations country-wide, which quickly turned into tribal genocide. Kikuyu's were attacked all over the country by Luyah's and Kilenjin. Their houses and shops were burned down and many were killed with machetes, stones and clubs.

The devil, no doubt, quickly threw gas on the fire and it was out of control. After arriving in Nairobi on February 18, 2008, I accompanied Mike Cheshier with Firewind Ministries up the Rift Valley north to the town of Kitale where the violence was raging. His ministry had received almost \$40,000 to provide food, blankets, sleeping mats and clothes to the thousands of Kenyans in refugee camps. In the 6 days I was with him, he bought and delivered about 40,000 pounds of mostly food, coarse corn, flour called unga, rice, cooking oil, sugar, salt, etc., to 15 refugee camps in which had from 175 to 14,600 people in each one.



Refugee Camp

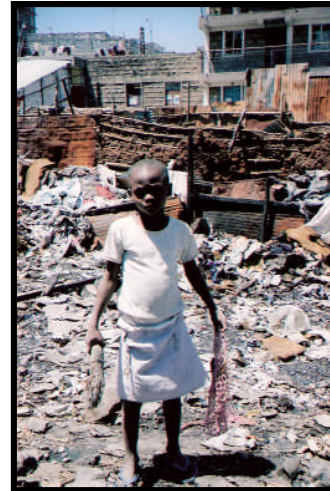


Life in the Refugee Camp

I've never seen anything like them. Imagine having fled your home, farm, livestock and all your possessions, your life's work. Many having their homes burned while fleeing for their lives. Many didn't make it and were killed. Many had terrible scars from being hacked with machetes. It was heartbreaking. Even churches have been split among tribal lines. It was widespread and at one time we were within 10 miles of the Uganda border.

In Eldoret Mike and I got to meet and talk to the pastor of the KAG church in which about 30 women and children were burned alive. This incident made world headlines. The pastor had eight teeth knocked out, was badly beaten and left for dead. But God raised him up after 3 days of being in a coma. In another town called Nakuru there was a curfew and no one could be on the streets after 7:00 PM.

One camp there had over 14,600 people on about 20 acres. Women giving birth and people dying in camp are just 2 of the problems. In our week long ministry we saw hundreds, if not thousands, of burned down houses and shops. In one town over half was gone, even churches and schools. I'm thankful to have been able to accompany Mike on such a vital ministry. The Word of God was preached briefly at each camp by Mike. He emphasized forgiveness, but it's going to take God to erase the atrocities in the minds of many of the Kenyans. I also thank God for protecting us as He ministered to the people in those hell-hole camps. Pray for them and for peace to come to Kenya. When the bulls fight the grass gets torn up and that's what has happened in Kenya. The innocent and poor suffer.



Searching for belongings



Destruction everywhere

Pray for
Kenya

NOW BACK TO NAIROBI and into Mathare Valley where many of you partners of MIA support one or more street children at Mathare Child Development Centre (MCDC) run by Momma Jane Nuthu. MCDC school and all activities were shut down by the violence in the slums for about 6-weeks. About 154 MCDC kids, mainly orphans, were displaced and scattered because of mass destruction and burning of entire areas in which they lived. They slept in MCDC classrooms for a while until it became even too dangerous there. Momma Jane then farmed them out to teachers and church members homes to live.



Momma Jane Nuthu

At one time Momma Jane herself had 16 homeless people in her house. Thank God neither the existing nor the new campus, which is under construction, suffered any damage. The children were scattered for a while but all are back safe and school is back up and running. **IN FACT THERE ARE NOW 523 STREET KIDS IN MCDC!** Thank God for Momma Jane. So far she has been able to replace over 100 school uniforms for kids who lost theirs in the fires. About 50 more are needed along with new school books for them.



These kids are growing up fast. The first 12 have graduated from high school and 80 are in various grades K-12. Your generous contributions have given them hope in Jesus and a chance at Life. May God richly bless you for your giving.



MCDC Compound Wall & Entry



1st & 2nd Floors of Dormitory

The new MCDC campus construction is steadily progressing. I've included some pictures of the first two floors of the dormitory (for 160 orphans to live in) and of the \pm 8,000 sq.ft. kitchen dining hall (1st floor) which is designed to feed 550 kids at each meal. The compound wall is complete and 3-Phase power is on-site. When more money is raised, the first 10 of 15 class rooms will be built on the adjacent one-half acre of ground David Wilkerson bought for MCDC. Please continue to pray for money to come in to keep the construction going. The kids desperately need it ASAP.



1st Floor of MCDC Kitchen/Dining Hall



Peter and I standing on MCDC Kitchen/Dining Hall

Thanks again to all you partners who have already invested in the new MCDC campus. It's been costing about \$20,000 per month for construction and MERCY IN ACTION has spent \$321,000 on it so far. \$120,000—\$150,000 more should complete Phase I to the point that will allow the entire campus to be moved to the new site. The kids have said they will all carry something to help move.

Also, please write a letter to each child you sponsor and get it to Ruby and I to hand carry them in when we go back in June. They cherish your letters and pictures. Momma Jane is making a special effort to have, not only a letter from each of your kids to you, but also an updated photo of each one for you by this summer.

Words cannot express our appreciation for each of you who partner with MERCY IN ACTION. May God perform His Word, Luke 6:38, in each of your lives! He is faithful.

In Him,

Bob & Ruby Nell Hoke

MERCY IN ACTION INTERNATIONAL
1113 SW 8th Terrace - Lee's Summit MO 64081
Phone 1-816-554-8999 - Fax: 1-816-524-4955 - www.mercyinactionintl.org