

Reflection with departure from Kuron!

I'm back in Juba on my way home to Norway. Sitting here at Friendship Guesthouse and know that I will not go back to Kuron on Monday. I feel somehow sad.

Three months goes very fast when you feel comfortable and stays with good and friendly people. Peace Village Kuron has got a room in my heart.

I came here without knowing that much about Kuron, I knew Bishop Paride Taban from my time in Juba with NCA from 1987 – 1989. A friend of mine challenged me to go to Kuron for 3 months. I have been longing to come back to South Sudan since I stayed there and now I got a chance. I'm happy for that. Thank you to «Norwegian Friends» who accepted me to go there.



I came in dry season and it was very hot. During night the temperature didn't go below +30⁰ Centigrade. One good thing was that we had enough and clean water.

Kuron River was dry when I came, but when the rain season started it took only two days before the river was overflowed. It was very unreal to see. Children started bathing in the river when the water was at low level, not afraid of crocodiles and to get some sickness from the very dirty water.

My task in Kuron was to assist and give advice in administration.

This year 2015 has been so far a critical situation for Peace Village. The budget proposal for the year and confirmed funding had a big gap. I become a member of management very soon after arrival and took part in discussion which took place in several meetings to find a solution and way forward.

The situation was difficult but not hopeless, and all members were eager to do the best for Peace Village. Staff meeting in end of March where acting director informed the staff on the current financial situation it was well understood.

«After sun comes rains» and I really so that. I had hoped to go to Kapoeta after Easter but the road situation didn't allowe me to do so.

You have to experience the road during rainy season before you can believe it. On top of that internet break down, and the plane which should bring the engineer for repair it couldn't land because of no sight. We stayed without internet and impassable road for more and two weeks. In such a situation you really feel you are in a remote area.

We didn't suffer, we had enough food and work went on as usual. The primary school have to close two weeks before schedule because of shortage of food.

Bishop Paride Taban started his dream with a bridge that was laid over the Kuron River and we now can see what has been achieved since then. He still have dreams of assisting people for better life, and stay in peace. He wants also more involvement from the local community. He has hope and sees the possibilities and no limitation. I is saying, - he will continue till he will die with his shoes on. God bless him.

Thanks to all the staff for good cooperation and special thanks to staff in the administration as Jonas, Prisca, Grace, Moses and Alfred.

God be with you till we meet again!

Yours
Olaug Husby

Juba, 1st June 2015