



To all of our many friends and family. We want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peace and joy filled new year. May Jesus reveal himself to you more truer, more powerfully, more lovingly as you meet with friends and family to celebrate his birth!

*With all our love,
Tohru and Claire*

YEAR IN REVIEW

- 1) Set up OT translation office
- 2) Facilitated the recording of the NT
- 3) Formalized the Crisis Management Team for Sudan
- 4) Involved in the Local church
- 5) Tohru created the Sudan Harvest Worker project



Sudan Times

Tohru and Claire in Sudan
CHRISTMAS EDITION: 2009



Christmas in Nairobi (by Claire)

Our first Christmas in Nairobi. It will be a new experience for us. I'm not sure what to expect but I am content and looking forward to something quiet and reflective.

I just finished a Bible study on the book of Daniel. It was fascinating and has caused me to consider Christmas from a more cosmic perspective – the grand timeline of God's plan. How Christmas was perfectly

planned and placed in history, how despite us wondering from year to year what is going to happen, everything is actually right on schedule. It is comforting in a strange way. I feel privileged to be part of this chapter in time.

And on another stream of thought I am considering Christmas and Jesus' life on earth and how he experienced life through being flesh and blood. God now knows how it

feels to sneeze, what it feels like to be surprised, how 38°C feels on the skin, to be thirsty, to stub his toe, to laugh until he can't breathe. It's wonderful.

So familiar and so cosmic all at the same time: Christmas

I am going to keep thinking about all these things. May you also have a wonder filled Christmas!

Up Ahead

January is the craziest month of the SIM Sudan calendar. Why? We have our annual Spiritual Life Conference in Kenya. So? Which means our whole team of Sudan based missionaries (52 people) flies into Kenya on chartered and commercial flights and need rides from the airport, places to stay, money to buy things, places to put all the things they buy, meetings with Nairobi based staff (like Tohru and I) and flights back to Sudan again. Needless to say, they take over the little SIM office like a swarm of bees and then leave 1 month later.

The logistics of all this has been tiring but the Lord has provided in amazing ways. We work well as an office team and I am pleased with all that has been arranged.

All this to say, please pray for us all through January. Here



SIM Sudan Team at the 2008 Spiritual Life Conference

is the calendar of events:

Jan 3-8 = team all fly into Nairobi (*please pray for safe flying and keeping on schedule*)

Jan 11-13 = all team first aid course (*please pray we all catch on and are more equipped*)

Jan 14-18 = Spiritual Life Conference (*please pray we are refreshed*)

Jan 19-20 = all team meeting including updating contingency plans for emergencies (*please pray for Tohru as he leads these sessions*)

Jan 21-31 = meetings with people (*please pray for wisdom in making decisions and*

plans for 2010)

Jan 25-31 = all team fly in shifts back into Sudan (*please pray for safe travels*)

Jan 26 = Claire gets 2 wisdom teeth pulled (*please pray for speedy recovery*)

Thank you! We will meet again at the end of January!

FCBH update – the recording of the Uduk New Testament by Faith Comes By Hearing finished well! The church gave their all and the product is almost ready. Claire will be on the checking team from Dec 28-30 and then it will be sent to the FCBH US office for processing. We will keep you updated on the progress.

Project highlight

Sudan Harvest Worker Project (#98200)



“Just like us, they are broken, lost and hopeless without God.”

Ever wonder what is happening to the missions movement outside of North America? For many years now there has been a powerful Latin American missions movement. There have also been churches in Africa who have been mobilized for global missions. Traditional sending countries are no longer the only ones involved in the work of global missions.

About a decade ago several believers from Ethiopia visited a relatively closed country and this sparked a wonderful chain reaction of vision for the lost.

In our own context, missionaries from India, Nige-

ria, Kenya and Ethiopia have now been serving in Sudan for over a year. Some of them joined the team in 2006. The heart of missions is strong in these countries which have taken up the work of the Gospel with people in far off lands.

Here, missionaries from India get an opportunity to share and be a part of the lives of Muslim women; missionaries from Nigeria have an opportunity to reach out through teaching; Kenyan missionaries mold the next generation through theological training; and Ethiopian missionaries reach out through disciple-

ship and evangelism.

In order to facilitate this work Tohru has put together a project to help catalyze this work through a project called the “Sudan Harvest Worker.” Inspired from the Lord’s appeal to have us pray for more harvest workers, its design is to see more missionaries from around the world join the great harvest work in Sudan.

We are praying for more opportunities for these missionaries. The work of global missions is not a venture of a single group, rather it is a global endeavor. It is the world reaching the world!

ROW 1: Claire sitting with the Uduk ladies in the shade of a tukul (hut); Tohru preaching on Sunday morning; Claire visiting with the Uduk ladies; Tohru and Claire with the team of recorders from Faith Comes by Hearing

MOSAIC
2009

ROW 2: Claire giving a speech at the OT translation office dedication; The Uduk church elders visiting under a tree; An Uduk boy; Chali church during Sunday afternoon service



ROW 3: Claire with two of the Uduk OT translators; Chali village; Claire on the satellite phone; One of the OT translators giving a speech at the translation office dedication

ROW 4: Church leaders at the Uduk OT office opening dedication; Uduk elder; Tohru installing the solar panel on the roof of the church; Tohru and Claire outside their home in Chali