

Karamoja Update and Prayer Requests – March 2008

Prayer for both dioceses:

- 5-year plan: After much prayer and discussion, Bishops James and Joseph have produced a report to set out their methods and objectives for sharing the Good News in Karamoja. The plan includes details on education, mission and development work. Please pray for wisdom as they edit the final draft of the report.
- Lambeth conference: Bishops in Uganda are being urged not to attend the Lambeth conference because of doctrinal issues over homosexuality. Bishops James and Bishop Joseph have been asked to raise \$5000 each to attend an alternative conference that was to be held in Jerusalem but is now planned to be in Jordan. It is unlikely that they will attend due to the cost, but they have both asked us to pray for the conference and the issue of unity within the Anglican Church.
- Pastors Salaries: Karamoja is experiencing such food shortages in some areas that the Ugandan government is providing food aid. Many parishioners cannot contribute food or finances to their church and pastors' families are suffering as a result. The salary assistance given by Crosslinks is helping but this is only intended as a top-up and does not stretch very far and many pastors cannot afford to educate their children. Please pray that the pastors will be able to provide food for their families, education for their children and be able to support for those in need in their parish.

Karamoja Diocese (South)

- Parish Visits: Bishop Joseph Abura is half way through visiting all the parishes in his diocese. He has visited each of the rural areas and will be visiting the urban areas later this month. Thank God for his safe journeys and please continue to pray for him as he travels. Please pray that he will be able to encourage the pastors.
- Diocesan Synod: Bishop Joseph Abura is leading the Diocesan Synod from the 17th – 20th March. Please pray for guidance, preparation and the finances for this. Joseph is rather nervous as it will be the first one he has led.
- Pastors' Conference: Bishop Joseph Abura hopes to hold a pastors' conference in early April. This will enable clergy from the Southern diocese to come together to pray, worship and encourage each other. Please pray for the organisation of this event.

North Karamoja Diocese

- Thank God for the time of great encouragement experienced by Bishop James, his pastors and their wives their recent retreat. The team left Northern Karamoja at 6am and arrived safely in the Northern diocese of Nebbi by 7:30pm. During the retreat the team received warm hospitality and had a chance to be spiritually fed. It was also encouraging to see that areas of Karamoja that had experienced fighting were now recovering and schools were re-opening.
- Transport: Many of the elderly clergy in Northern Karamoja who have parishes spanning a 20 - 30 km area find it hard to visit their parishioners. Please pray for a solution to this problem.

Karamoja Visit

- 6 members of the congregation of the Good Shepherd in Four Marks will be visiting Karamoja in May to work in the two dioceses. Please pray for all the preparations for this trip.

Maternity Leave

- You may have realised that the prayer update email has not been as regular as it once was. This is due to the fact that I (Alison) am heavily pregnant and we are expecting our second child in April. Over the past 5 years we have enjoyed our monthly phone calls to Karamoja but no longer feel we can hold the responsibility of monthly updates and prayer meetings. Both Andy and I believe prayer and communication should be at the heart of our relationship with our friends in Karamoja. Please pray that God will find the right person or people to continue this work.

For monthly updates email prayer@karamoja.info or visit www.karamoja.info