

Kindergarden in Erbil - founded by the "ASSYRIAN WOMEN UNION"

The "Assyrian Women Union" built up a "KINDERGARDEN" and a "HOUSE FOR CHILDREN" ; they are looking for the children in Erbil and in the surroundings of Erbil. They are cooperating with "ASSYRIAN AID SOCIETY" (AAS) in Erbil. The evangelical parish of Bad Schussenried is supporting this important work of the union and the community of Bad Schussenried has good connections to the women, who are responsible this time for the "Assyrian Women Union" - to the president Pasquale Isho and to Romy Beyto. The parish gave various contributions in the last year 2002 to the kindergarden - for example: the contribution of the confirmation service 2002 - it was a decision of the young people - a part of the donations from our "Week for children 2002" and other contributions. Pfarrer Oberkampff will try to continue this project, because the women are doing a very important work during a very difficult time. They are working against the war and they are meaning, that war is no answer. They are working for the life and this is a very important task of all Christians.



Hope you are keeping well.

On the 4th 5th Jan. 2003 a delegation of the Assyrian Women Union included Galita Shaba, Romy Betyo and Suzan Sankhiro, visited the Assyrian villages of Nahla area, which consists of 7 villages, to distribute gifts on the children of those villages under 12. The Union chooses these villages for such activity because they are isolated, where there is no paved roads to reach them, and they are far about 2 hours from the nearest city, and on the occasion of Christmas and New Year we thought it will be a good gesture for the children there. And because of winter and bad weather the villagers usually face difficulties in going to cities to buy their needs, so we decided that the best thing to buy was cloth. We asked persons from the villages about the number and ages of the children there, so we could buy the right sizes.



On the designated day we moved from Arbil at 8 o'clock and headed to Akra city, where we were accompanied by another car, it's always recommended to go to Nahla villages by more than one car, because of the unpaved roads, and in winter they become very muddy. It took about 4 hours to reach the 1st village (Belmet), where we were welcomed by the people of the village, they advised us to visit 1st the most far villages, because if it starts raining it will be impossible to reach them in those roads, so we headed to (Chame rabatki) village, the children in this village are numbered (27) we gifted them and saw the happiness in their eyes and thanks words from the parents. We moved then to (Meroky) village and presented the gifts to the (8) children in there.



After that we went back again to (Belmet) village, which is the biggest among those villages, and there were (58) children who took their gifts with joy and directly all begun to wear them and show them to their friends. It was getting late so we spent the night there. The villages of Nahla area were set decades ago, but it was only last year that they saw electricity for the 1st time, the generators were installed by the Assyrian Aid Society and funded by Assyrian American National Federation, there is a generator in 5 of the seven villages, the two left are (Chame rabatky and Meroky).



For the 1st time too a primary school was opened there, in the past the students were obliged to go to Dohuk or Akra or where ever they have relatives to attend schools, but now about (65) students joined the school, we asked a boy there, do you like it more to study here, he answered yes of course, at least I wont miss my parents because Im with them.



On the next morning, we headed to (Jooly) village, the number of children there were (9), it has been raining since last night and the roads become so muddy and so slippery. Then we went to (Khalilany) village and distributed gifts to (20) children, and moved from there to (Hezany) village with number of (31) children. The villagers are so hospitality that each village we visited insisted on eating and staying there and were so glad and thankful. We ended the visit with (Kashkawa) village, where there are (11) children. And with that we started our way back to Arbil again.



Person can't imagine the happiness on the faces of the children and how much the parents were grateful, because it came as said just in time . You can see all that in the attached pictures with this report.

The gifts for (164) children of these villages were bought from a portion of the money you sent, and the rest of the amount will be spent on buying the educational toys for Arbil kindergarten.

Father, this was a full report for our visit to villages of Nahla area, and the pictures attached will give you a clear image of all our visit.

With best regards

Assyrian Women Union



All photos above are from the visit to Nahla district.

http://www.nordirak-turabdin.de/Nordirak/Aktuelles_Nordirak_/aktuelles_nordirak_.html