

## Katilu Trip

With, Aluvisia, Kamau and Ngetich, we set off early Thursday morning through Mai Mahiu with an aim of passing by Pastor Ngetich's home. He had come to Nairobi to change office bearers of their church at the Registrar of Societies and needed to get ready for the journey to Turkana. Glory Baptist Church where he serves as a pastor planted the church in Turkana many years back when Isaac Erot used to work in the tea farm plantations in Kericho. Therefore it was fitting to travel with him as one who is known there. The church there has opted to remain under the oversight of TBC.

At Duka Moja just after Sussua, after slowing down for speed bumps, the car could not engage the gear! We realized that the clutch had given up the ghost. Mr. Gichihi, the mechanic was not available. Thankfully Ken Mbutia, one of the deacons, was able to obtain two mechanics and the necessary spare parts to come and rescue us. At 1700hrs they began the work which took more than 8 hours to fix. But as we set off again, we realized that the speedometer and odometer were not functioning so we called them and met in Sussua. It was not until way after 1.00 am that we took off. By this time we were well-beaten by the cold and hunger and so stopped in Narok for some dinner. At 0530 we arrived in Chebangang. Carol, David's wife was waiting for us with a warm cup of tea.

We set off for Turkana before 7.00 am and at 1300hrs we were in Kitale for lunch. Descending the Kamatira hills through Chepareria and Ortum was quite enjoyable. We were glad that the road to Turkana has been tarmacked recently. There was a very short section that is still under construction. This has happened in the last one year due to the petroleum that has been discovered in Ngamia 1. At 1700hrs we were at Kalemngorok (pronounced, Kalemoro) where Isaac Erot (the pastor) and Paul, a deacon at the church, were waiting for us. We then travelled to Katilu which is 19Km off the tarmac.

We were welcomed warmly by Margaret Erot, Isaac's wife, and the children. His son Kevin Amoni performed well in his KCSE and has been invited to Moi University, Eldoret. They requested help with fees especially the entrance fee, so that afterward he may rely on Higher Education Loan Board (HELB). Meshack is in a technical college in Nakuru where he is doing a diploma in electrical engineering. There are four other younger children.

Ngetich and I were very impressed by Isaac and what he is doing in Katilu. I was particularly pleased to hear, Isaac's grasp of the gospel and his seriousness in the work. One of his right hand man, John, decided to marry a second wife. Being unrepentant, he recommended his ex-communication which was effected by the church! This is a well-functioning, biblical reformed Baptist church.



Akorilemu: David Ngetich preaching to a few who gathered under a tree, where the weekly Bible study is held.

Margaret was running a shop that she began through a loan from the women group. But since they so much depended on the shop, after they paid back the loan, it collapsed. They spoke of the booming business in the area. It may as well be something to consider doing to help them in sustenance, instead of giving a monthly income. This might be feasible, bearing in mind that it is the wife doing the work so that Isaac is not taken away from his labours in the gospel.

Isaac has recently began Bible study in a village called Kakorilemu, 7Km from Katilu. He works closely with a man called Paulo, who owns a motorbike, farms watermelons and has a large heard of livestock. Sadly, Paulo



**Isaac & Margaret Erot**

which thankfully, came negative. It was never found out what was the problem. It may as well be that the exhaustion of more than 30 hours without sleep had caught up with me.

The following day was Sunday. We went to the church at around 9.30 am. The service began promptly, beginning with a Bible study both for adults and the children. Aluvisia took the adults Bible study while Ngetich taught the children with Kevin. Then Ngetich preached in the morning service while I preached in the afternoon. There were more than 20 in attendance for each of the services. Other than Isaac and Paulo, there was only one other man, while the rest were women and children. The fourth man is John who was away in Kitale on business. He arrived back in the evening. In the evening we had the opportunity of teaching the Word of God to a few who gathered.

Aluvisia and Francis had the privilege of speaking with four teenagers; three young men and a girl, for more than two hours. These are high school children who were home for their midterm holiday. Some literature was also given to them. They have been confused by the Roman Catholics and the Charismatics. May the Lord smile upon the efforts of these brethren in Katilu.



**Trinity Baptist Church, Katilu.**

cannot speak Swahili, being illiterate. He comes from Kakorilemu and is well-respected in the area. We visited his village on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June and I brought the gospel to a group of a few women, many children, a few teenagers and one man. There were many questions afterwards regarding who God is. They did not see any difference between Jesus and God. One teenage boy, when asked whether he had heard before about Jesus, he said 'Yes. I have heard. But he has never visited us.' He looked sincere. We were given a ram after preaching! It was slaughtered at Isaac's home and became stew for the rest of the days.

When we came back, I felt so weak that I fell asleep and blacked out. When I woke up my body was numb and trembling! So I went to the nearby health centre and got malaria and diabetes tests,

## Prayer needs:

1. We know that the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. May all the elect of God in Katilu and the entire Turkana land hear the gospel and come to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation. May this church be an effective gospel witness in the area. May the Lord open more gospel opportunities so that the gospel may speed ahead and be honoured in this community.
2. Isaac needs some ministry training as much as he needs a reliable co-worker. May the Lord provide labourers for this ministry.
3. Isaac needs some means of sustenance. He has not monthly or regular financial support. If this work is to move forward, then their pastor needs financial help.
4. Kevin Amoni needs fees for his university education. His earthly father may not be able to meet this need, but we trust our Father in heaven to provide for His people.
5. The Lord has provided a piece of land where they need to put up their own church building. May the Lord provide for the construction of a church building where they can meet to worship Him.

