



Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

January 2008

We enjoy climbing the hill to the west of the school. The view is beautiful. We can look down over the bible school compound and see the entire campus. It's such a joy to think about what has been accomplished in five short years. You have given your prayers, your love, your labor, and your financial gifts to this mission. You have given these children and their families a school, as well as beans, rice, chickens, goats, roofs, and in some cases — a whole house! This last year alone you supported 359 children. The only reason you didn't support the 360th child was because you didn't know he was attending school. (Remember 'too young,' Elishadai from the Oct. newsletter?) You gave funds this past year for another set of classrooms and a goatherd, *plus* the fence to contain them! Even if we include the Sakila staff in our count, there are still less than 500 of us that God has used to accomplish all this. It reminds us of Gideon's army in the seventh chapter of Judges.



We are so grateful for your prayers, and the trust you have placed in us to direct your funds to where they will do the most good. When you so faithfully support your children, as you have been, we are able to use that extra money so many of you send us to accomplish so much more! Most recently you have been helping to cover the higher cost of the 2008 uniforms. \$83.50 is really not an exorbitant price when you think that it buys everything from the skin out. One could spend that much for a pair of shoes here in the states. Many of you are helping by giving the whole amount or a portion of it and we'll soon have enough to outfit 462 children! That's the enrollment for 2008. The same uniform will be worn the entire year except for one day each week...laundry day.

As soon as the 2008 uniforms are funded we are focusing on the next need... a vehicle. It's important for us to visit the families of the children to see how they are managing. You have *never* seen poverty like this. You can't *imagine* how some people survive. If we had not seen it with our own eyes we couldn't have given you an accurate report. Even with a vehicle it took us three hours to visit two of these homes. There are no roads into the majority of these

dwelling, just paths through trees or corn patches, no electricity or running water, and most bathrooms are holes in the ground surrounded by grain sacks.

We understand that you would like to have more information about your child. You know the stories we put in most newsletters? Well, those come from Rogath and Martha's visits to a child's home. They let us catch a glimpse of how much our help means to these families. We're aware of the fact that we don't see the rain and mud at the time of year we visit. Not so when Rogath goes a' visiting. Many times she walks miles in gumbo-like mud so thick you get taller with each step because it builds up on your shoes. We thought, if the school had a car she could use, it would be a much more efficient use of her time. The car would be a *used* vehicle and the cost is about \$6,000. It would save her time and miles of walking.

We can't thank you enough for your generosity to this ministry. May God give you all a wonderful year in 2008 and may His blessing continue to remain on you and the people of Sakila.

Look for your tax receipts at the end of this month, and notify us immediately of any discrepancies. We hope you will join us for the annual potluck, Sunday, January 27th, beginning at 2:00pm. At Christ Memorial Church, on the corner of 8th and Hostmark in Poulsbo, WA. If your last name begins with A-L please bring a salad or dessert. If it begins with M-Z please bring a main dish, hot or cold. We'll hear from the people who went with us in September 2007. And, Bishop Eliudi will be there to give us the latest news about the children and the school.

Blessings to you all and a most blessed New Year,

Gene & Perraine Anderson

The Sakila Sponsorship Program is a certified 501(c)(3) Charity. All donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the Sakila Sponsorship Program (S.S.P.) or pay securely using your credit or debit card by going to www.sakilasponsorship.org and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.